

Bonding scheme for builders

Architects and chartered surveyors are backing a National Home Enlargement Bureau plan for protecting householders against builders going bankrupt while still working on home extensions (Derek Harris writes).

Mr Owen Luder, president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, said yesterday: "Our industry has been plagued by cowboy builders and unqualified designers for many years. This scheme will undoubtedly help to stamp them out." A fifth of all bankruptcies and company liquidations in 1980 concerned building contractors, he pointed out.

The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors has also indicated it will back the scheme.

The success of the plan, which could be operating by the autumn, depends on bringing enough builders into the bonding scheme, which involves once-and-for-all membership payment by builders.

Those payments would provide the initial funding for a comprehensive insurance bonding arrangement which, if a builder was unable to finish a house extension, would ensure completion without the householder in any extra costs. The home enlargement market is valued at about £1,000m a year.

Tory bar on Pope alleged

Opposition from the Government has halted plans for the Pope to address both Houses of Parliament during his visit to Britain next month, according to Norman St John-Stevens, a former Conservative Cabinet minister.

In his book on the Pope which is published today, Mr St John-Stevens, a prominent Roman Catholic, says: "Although this was not a decision acceptable to the Speaker and others responsible for the Palace of Westminster, it unfortunately did not find favour with the present Government."

Mr St John-Stevens does not enlarge on his proposal, but it had gone ahead if it had not been for the more extreme Protestants.

Ulster Alliance debate link

Northern Ireland's moderate Alliance Party debated the establishment of formal links with the SDP-Liberal Alliance at its conference over the weekend, but took no decision, agreeing instead to hold talks with SDP/Liberal Alliance leaders (Craig Seton writes from Belfast).

The Alliance Party believes that the SDP-Liberal partnership must first fully establish a joint policy on devolution, power-sharing and self-determination before the Alliance Party in Northern Ireland can consider formal ties.

Quick draw for Portisch

In the ninth round of the Phillips and Drew Kings chess tournament at County Hall, London, Portisch contented himself with a quick draw against Geller (Harry Golombek writes).

Karpov skillfully outplayed Miles to win and Spassky was too good for Mestel in some middle game complications.

Cosmetics ban

Protesters plan to distribute leaflets in Princes Street, Edinburgh, urging shoppers to boycott products made by Elida Gibbs as a protest against the use of animals in testing cosmetics. The company's goods include the Harmony and Sunsilks hair care ranges.

Toxteth stoning

Two policemen were injured as youths stoned police cars in disturbances at Toxteth, Liverpool on Saturday. But Merseyside police said yesterday that the trouble was little more than usual and that the youths dispersed when the police moved in.

Council strike

Five hundred manual workers employed by Peterborough council, Cambridgeshire, intend to strike on Wednesday in protest at a decision by the Labour-controlled authority to give maintenance contracts to private companies.

Hunt for killer

More than 100 policemen were yesterday drafted into the suburb of Cantley, Doncaster, to hunt the killer of Mrs Edith Emily Paton, a widow, aged 83, who was found stabbed at her home in St Wilfred's Road on Saturday.

Royal visit fire alert

Security for today's expected visit to Cornwall by the Prince and Princess of Wales was stepped up after a fire-raiser tried to burn down a hotel near St Austell only 75 yards from the hotel where they are due to lunch.

McCarthy sides with Aslef on rostering

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The McCarthy inquiry into train drivers' pay and conditions is expected to come down in favour of the militant footplatemen's union and against British Rail's demand for "flexible rostering".

Lord McCarthy, chairman of the Railway Staffs National Tribunal, has been in no doubt during a tour of British Rail locomotive depots that the drivers will not surrender their eight-hour maximum working day even if he rules that they must.

He has privately conceded his dilemma that some face-saving formula must be found that will avert a new crisis in the industry while conceding that the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) has won the long-running dispute over changes in working practices.

One compromise formula being asked for the McCarthy tribunal to rule that flexible rostering as presently proposed cannot be implemented, but in return that the footplatemen do not share in the general reduction in the 39-hour working week until they provide self-financing productivity concessions.

The timing of publication of his report is regarded as critical. British Rail believes it will be a series of options which Aslef sources think it could take longer, and it will in any event be timed to influence the union's policy-making conference which opens in London on May 17.

Lord McCarthy's compromise formula did not meet with enthusiasm from the other two rail unions, the National Union of Railwaymen and the Transport Salaried Staffs Association, who have already accepted changes in working practices for their members.

Mr Clifford Rose, British Rail board member for industrial relations, has said that the industry will be "in a mess" if Lord McCarthy finds for the footplatemen.

A "judgement of Solomon" on those lines would be regarded as a defeat by British Rail management, who will announce huge losses when the industry's annual financial results are published on Wednesday. Aslef's campaign of one and two-day strikes earlier this year cost the industry an estimated £180m in lost revenue, and Sir Peter Parker, chairman of the British Railways board, has staked his personal future on winning the dispute with the train drivers.

However, Lord McCarthy is understood to have considered during his tour of motive power depots at Euston, York, Polmadie in Glasgow, and Bristol that the only way to avoid another head-on clash would be to come down on the footplatemen's side by retaining the maximum guaranteed working day, while finding for the board on delaying introduction of the 39-hour week for drivers.

Union eases line on Sunday trading

From Donald Macintyre, Eastbourne

The prospect of widespread Sunday opening by shops, department stores and supermarkets has brought closer yesterday when the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers voted to set up a study into legislation on retail hours.

The union modified its 90-year-old policy of opposition to Sunday trading by agreeing to put a series of options on the subject to its 438,000 members when the study is completed in six months.

The union's conference at Eastbourne yesterday overwhelmingly approved a special policy document from the executive questioning whether "some greater flexibility and liberalisation of shopping hours" was not now inevitable.

Mr John Flood, the union's deputy general secretary, told the delegates: "If there is going to be a change, let it be a good one. Do we want to stand alone with the Lord's Day Observance Society and

allow others to get on with the change? We cannot bury our heads in the sand."

Mr Flood recalled that, last week, the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union had contemplated a return to Saturday opening in banks, partly, he said to prevent jobs going to USAEW members in department stores with banking facilities. "We must consider our members as well," he said.

The Shops act, 1950, precludes Sunday trading in most commodities apart from medicines, tobacco, newspapers, and fresh food other than meat.

The union policy document insists that there is at present no evidence, "particularly in a period of great recession and high unemployment", justifying an extension in Sunday trading beyond that allowed in the Act. It adds: "There is certainly no desire or need for a seven day retail free-for-all."

Business optimism is improving, survey says

By Our Labour Editor

Eight out of 10 trade union officials think industrial relations will worsen over the next year, but a quick survey of managers believes that the general economic climate will improve, according to a survey which claims to discern a dramatic improvement in business optimism.

The survey is based on 297 replies to a questionnaire sent out after last month's Budget by Eric Parlooe Industrial Communications (EPIC), reports today that 80 per cent of managers and 79 per cent of trade unionists expect the economic climate to improve in the next 12 months.

"This greatly improved optimism on the economy consistently showed through on other questions. Expectations on improving productivity showed an overall jump of 31 per cent to 71 per cent since 1981. Management confidence in improved productivity for 1982 doubled to 67 per cent."

The black spot, however, is industrial relations. Nearly half of the sample thought that industrial disputes will remain at the same level, and 79 per cent of trade union respondents predict that the industrial relations climate will worsen.

The survey detects a "strong suggestion" of im-

portant, long-term changes in management and union attitudes. "Trade unionist appear more willing than managers to acknowledge this."

Only 27 per cent believe the strength of the unions has weakened over the past five years, 47 per cent believe the recession has brought about a long-term change in attitudes towards management; 62 per cent believe that managements have changed their attitudes towards trade unions.

In its analysis of the returns, however, EPIC does not highlight the figure of 79 per cent of trade union respondents who believe that industrial relations will get worse, a rise of seven points on the last similar survey.

An interesting statistic for Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment, is the verdict of the survey on his Employment Bill. On the management side, 51 per cent believe it will have "little or no effect on industrial relations over the next three years", while only 20 per cent of trade unionists believe it would have an impact.

Perhaps more surprisingly, almost a third (32 per cent) of trade unionist believe industrial relations would be improved by the introduction of a formal incomes policy, while only 24 per cent of managers share that view.

Labour call for circus animal ban

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

A complete ban on traditional circus animal entertainment is being proposed as part of a Labour Party charter for animal protection.

A study paper which is being considered for inclusion in Labour's statement of political principle on all issues of policy, says: "A party which cares for people and their rights must also care for animals and their protection. 'Labour reaffirms its moral and ethical view that all animals, whether in the wild, domesticated, or farmed for food, should be treated with dignity and respect in strict accordance with their behavioural and ethological

needs; for we are partners in this planet with animals, not their masters."

The document also reaffirms a previous condemnation of "extreme livestock systems", demanding "that an animal should have sufficient freedom of movement to be able, without difficulty, to turn around, groom itself, get up, lie down and stretch its limbs."

But it also delivers a number of new policy pronouncements including a proposed ban on "extreme systems", such as battery cages, veal calf crates and sow stalls.

The most controversial proposal, however, is contained in the sentence which



Girl pianist is musician of year

Miss Anna Markland, an 18-year-old pianist, became the BBC Young Musician of the Year at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Saturday (Christopher Warren writes). Miss Markland (above), from Moreton, Wirral, now tackles an international competition for young musicians, which will be shown live on television on May 11. She had played Rachmaninov's second piano concerto as her competition piece and was one of three finalists from Chetham's School of Music, Manchester,

where she is head girl. The other finalists were Paul Galbraith, aged 18, from Edinburgh, a guitarist from Chetham's School; Karen Jones, aged 15, a flautist from Cobham, Surrey (St Paul's School for Girls, Hammersmith); and Jeanette Murphy, aged 15, from Liverpool, (Chetham's School of Music). Miss Markland won a prize of £500, presented to her by Sir Alexander Gibson, chairman of the judges. Her ambition is to be a concert pianist but she also wants to teach.

Issues the voters must decide

By David Walker
Local Government Correspondent

Cynics, and psephologists, say that what is least important in local elections are the issues, the policy statements, platforms and manifestos of the respective parties.

Perhaps that is just as well, for election manifestos are not the most elevated category of political literature. They are full of general commitment. "Conservatives care for you", the Tory manifesto says in the Prime Minister's home territory of Barnet. "Caring about people... caring about costs", an SDP poster declares.

They make modest promises. "People will be appointed as neighbourhood officers who are in time" with the philosophy of the council", Labour's plan for Wandsworth says. "Under Liberal control, the time-wasting and costly jungle of committees and subcommittees will be swept away and a new, more streamlined system introduced", the Liberal manifesto for Manchester proclaims.

Yet beneath the hyperbole, the manifestos and agendas for action do give electors an inkling of what the parties stand for. In many areas all the main parties are running against something, and their programmes strike a negative note.

As a new party, the SDP has most to be negative about. In a recent joint statement the Alliance for the south London boroughs of Greenwich, Lambeth and Lewisham, Southwark and

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Wandsworth complained: "The existing councils have been using local government for ideological experiments, dishing out an unpalatable diet of dogmatism, mismanagement and bureaucracy, rather than tackling the increasingly intractable problems of inner-city decay and social deprivation with which south London is faced".

In all the metropolitan areas, the Alliance and the Conservatives are taking a critical line about the upper tier of local government, blaming the metropolitan counties and the Greater London Council for high rates.

The Tory manifesto of one of the Westminster wards says the burden of the domestic ratepayer is the fault of socialists at the GLC and the Inner London Education Authority. "Extravagance by the GLC and ILGA is not actually controlled by the present system. We support reforms of the rating system and local government to keep it responsive to genuine local needs".

Liberals in some areas are highly critical of council staff blaming them for failures of policy and excessive spending. Manchester Liberals say they intend to bring the bureaucrats face to face with the people by establishing "council shops" where citizens can hear officials. The Conservatives' central themes are spending and the rates, although that song is

mutated in Tory-controlled London where the rates have recently risen. Manchester Tories have promised to cut the rates if they are elected.

Where Conservatives are challenging Labour for power, council house sales and private refuse collection are important. In Birmingham, Mr Neville Bosworth, the party's leader, says big savings would follow collection but also the management of housing, school meals, swimming baths, architects' work and park maintenance.

Labour's agenda can be summarized as more and better, and lays heavy emphasis on the necessity of electing a Labour government to expand public spending in all areas.

The SDP's policy statements focus on a better financial and administrative control of councils, through "performance review committees". A common SDP-Liberal promise is to keep increases in both rates and local authority rents in line with inflation.

Alliance documents lay more emphasis on environmental matters. On housing, the SDP line is to obey the law allowing tenants the right to buy, but with serious misgivings about the policy. The Alliance shares with Labour an attraction to a new municipal vogue word, decentralization. That involves putting housing and social services officials closer to the people, for example in offices on housing estates. Few manifestos say whether that policy would close town halls.

Power in sight, Welsh Liberals told

From Tim Jones Cardiff

Welsh Liberals were told yesterday that their alliance with the Social Democratic Party could capture 20 of the 36 parliamentary seats in the principality at the next election, when the Liberals will contest 17 seats, the rest being fought by the SDP.

Mr Gerald Howells, MP for Cardigan and leader of the Welsh Liberal Party, told delegates to the party's annual conference that in the past they had tended to discuss policies and intentions in some kind of limbo because they were too far removed from the centre of power.

"We are now faced with an entirely different situation, and it is our duty to formulate our policies with the possibility of power in view", he said.

While some of the conference motions, particularly those on international affairs, were extremely nebulous, those dealing with local affairs had a sharper edge. Mr Howells said that there was a "huge tide of resentment" over water charges in the principality. "The injustice to Welsh householders is one that could easily have been avoided, and it will be one of the first tasks of the Alliance government to ensure there is an equalization of charges throughout the United Kingdom", he said.

Another cause of bitterness, Mr Howells said, was the serious situation over second homes. "I believe there should be controls on them, particularly when the number of empty houses or those infrequently inhabited threatens the stability of the community and price the houses well out of the reach of local inhabitants."

Conceding that some second homes brought economic advantages to rural districts, Mr Howells said the imbalance in some areas could be corrected by judicious legislation.

The delegates also promised to continue the campaign on leasehold reform. In South Wales, particularly, where the 99-year leases on dwelling built to accommodate the workers of the industrial revolution are running out, it is another populist issue which engenders strong emotions.

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UK 'losing abroad' in genetic research

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Discoveries in the rapidly developing field of genetic engineering and biotechnology made in university laboratories in Britain and funded by the Government through grants from the research councils, are being exported by foreign companies to the exclusion of British companies. Concern is expressed in written evidence to an inquiry by the Commons committee on education, science, and the arts.

It comes in a memorandum from the Medical Research Council. It says relationships of British academics with venture capital companies have important implications for the studies paid for by the three main research councils involved in genetic engineering and biotechnology. The other two are the Agricultural Research Council, and the Science and Engineering Research Council.

The Medical Research Council memorandum says some university scientists obtain council support for the more basic aspects of their research, and then seek foreign venture capital for those aspects of their work likely to have commercial benefits, thus depriving British companies of the financial gain arising from achievements which would not have been possible without government-funded "underpinning research".

There is also anxiety about the loss abroad of young graduates trained in Britain, and the export of scientists who provide the training, who are "bought up" by American and European companies. The Medical Research Council says that it is necessary to set the level of Britain's training programme on the assumption that there will be substantial wage rises overseas, and it is necessary also for young and experienced scientists to be properly supported in Britain.

Everything possible should be done to encourage workers who have spent time in industry abroad to return to academic posts in this country, the Medical Research Council says.

In a separate memorandum, the Agricultural Research Council says that improvements in agriculture, through the application of advances in genetic engineering, will be lost unless there are changes in the traditional teaching and research practices in universities.

Research to improve plants is receiving special attention because of the scale of the potential benefits from applications of genetic discoveries. In molecular biology to create disease-resistant strains and higher yielding crops.

Other high priority research includes the creation of new animal vaccines, the genetic manipulation of animals to improve the quality of the stock, and the development of novel agricultural systems. The last category embraces schemes for growing simple organisms by growing plant cells in large vats.

The agricultural research programme is built on existing expertise; research teams in universities and the council's own institutions. Progress in genetic manipulation of plants is hampered by a dearth of good plant biologists who are also expert in molecular biology.

The medical research council strives to hold the balance between a continued strength in basic research and exploiting discoveries with potential applications to the National Health Service and industry. The main concern is that the pressure to drive short-term commercial development does not cut off the flow of innovations by diverting money and skills from fundamental research.

Science report

Layman's guide to the high seas

By Tony Samstag

The sea, loosely construed, is inevitably more talked about than understood. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has attempted to put that situation to rights with the publication of a handsome (and relatively cheap) *Atlas of the Seas around the British Isles*, only to be greeted with a public indifference that has caused some dismay among the well-meaning scientists at its Lowestoft fisheries laboratory in Suffolk.

The atlas comprises coloured charts, each with its explanatory text and notes on sources, bound loosely (for updating) between hard covers. The maps "bring together for the first time in one book the key facts about the nature of the seas themselves, the size and distribution of the various resources, the marine pollution, the dangers which beset those using the sea and the safety measures which are available to combat those dangers," the proud ministry authors wrote.

"Jargon has been kept to an absolute minimum," they note, in the hope that the atlas will find a wide audience among interested laymen as well as specialists, schools and universities.

The series of charts on which the atlas is based dates from 1976 and is basically a spin-off of the ministry's work in collating information about the North Sea. More than 20 of the charts are new, and most of those relate to fisheries of the region; the use of colour is also an advance on the earlier black and white series.

The five sections of the atlas cover the distortions caused by Mercator's projection, which is used throughout; the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the sea; fisheries; "other uses of the sea", such as oil and gas production fields and pollution sources; and marine safety, from Right-of-way to shipping forecasts.

Atlas of the Seas around the British Isles, (Edited by Arthur Lee and John Rampton. MAFS Atlas Office, Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 0HT. £11.65 (inc. p.v.) UK, or £12 to Europe or North America.

Ramblers remember old battles

From Ronald Faux
Kinder Scout

It was a fine weekend for remembering old battles. Bright sunshine warmed the peat bogs of Kinder Scout in the Derbyshire Peak District where 50 years ago, 400 ramblers from Manchester and Sheffield strode out on to "private" moorland to assert a right to walk in the countryside.

The walkers confronted by gamekeepers and police. In the clash that followed no one was seriously injured but "a jury of gentry" handed out prison sentences totalling 17 months on five young men found guilty of riotous assembly.

There were no aggressive gamekeepers on the moor this weekend when a large crowd of ramblers met at Hayfield beneath Kinder Scout and marched out on to the moors to link up with a contingent from Sheffield to celebrate the event. It was an impressive turnout on Saturday and yesterday a question and answer session was arranged to air the subject of access to the countryside.

Benn headline 'inaccurate'

A *Daily Express* headline describing Mr Wedgwood Benn as a dictator was unjustified, inaccurate and not supported by the text of the report below it, the Press Council rules today, upholding a complaint made by Mr Gerald Ellis of Priory Road, Bromdesbury, north-west London, and Mr Jack Doherty of Hornby Road, Blackpool.

Under the headline "Benn the dictator" Mr John Warden reported on the front page that Mr Benn bulldozed his way to a coup at a meeting of the Labour Party national executive, forcing "moderate" MPs to run the gauntlet of left-wing rivalries for reselection.

Mr Ellis complained that dictators achieved power by force; Mr Benn had not done so. The editor's personal assistant, Mr Morris Bennett, replied that in many people's view some of Mr Benn's actions merited the description "dictator".

Mr John Warden, political editor, told the council his reports appeared when the issue in the Labour Party was party democracy versus party dictatorship, with the selection of MPs as the touchstone.

The Press Council's adjudication was that the headline "Benn the dictator" was unjustified, inaccurate and not supported by the text of the report. It reflected an editorial opinion rather than the substance of a news item. The complaint against the *Daily Express* was upheld.

The *Daily Telegraph* was ordered to correct or substantiate a statement in a leading article that was open to more than one interpretation, the Press Council says today.

The council upheld a complaint by Mr F. C. Burrett, of Claygate, Surrey, that having published an assertion that Civil Service department officials lacked the demands of the Civil Service trades, the Government, the editor failed to correct or substantiate it.

Overseas selling prices:
Australia \$4.25, Canada \$4.25, New Zealand \$4.25, South Africa \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Thailand \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.25, Tibet \$4.25, Mongolia \$4.25, North Korea \$4.25, South Korea \$4.25, Japan \$4.25, Taiwan \$4.25, Hong Kong \$4.25, Singapore \$4.25, Malaysia \$4.25, Philippines \$4.25, Indonesia \$4.25, Brunei \$4.25, Maldives \$4.25, Sri Lanka \$4.25, Ceylon \$4.25, India \$4.25, Pakistan \$4.25, Bangladesh \$4.25, Nepal \$4.25, Bhutan \$4.2

Science report

Layman's guide to the high seas

By Tony Samuels

The sea, loosely defined, is everything that is not land. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has attempted to define the high seas as the area beyond the 12-mile limit of the territorial sea. This is a relatively simple definition, but it is not always clear what is meant by the high seas. The sea is a vast area, and it is not always clear what is meant by the high seas. The sea is a vast area, and it is not always clear what is meant by the high seas. The sea is a vast area, and it is not always clear what is meant by the high seas.

Borstals must go, pressure group argues

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Britain imprisons more of its young people than any other Western European country, according to a report published today.

The London Intermediate Treatment Association, a pressure group on behalf of young people in trouble in London, says official figures show that the number of young people sent to borstals and detention centres has risen fivefold in the past 15 years, but only a fifth of the increase is related directly to increased offending.

The rest is the result of the growing use of custodial sentences for almost all offences. The report says that 80 per cent of juveniles now in custody should not be there.

Penal institutions for juveniles are attracting a younger, less criminal and violent population, but the report says more young people are re-offending after release.

Intermediate treatment was introduced as an alternative to juvenile penal institutions as a result of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969. But its expansion and other community work has done nothing to reduce the juvenile population in traditional custodial institutions.

The report says that only with the abolition of institutions like borstals and detention centres will alternative community effort for young offenders become effective.

Black people are more likely than whites to make confessions to the police, according to two Birmingham University law lecturers (Lucy Hodges writes).

Mr Michael McConville and Mr John Baldwin analysed 479 London crown court cases and found that 60 per cent of black defendants made confessions compared with 49 per cent of the whites.

In a sample of 2,500 cases in Birmingham they found that 58 per cent of West Indian defendants confessed to crimes compared with 47 per cent of whites. In both cities only about a fifth of all West Indians entered court without having made or having attributed to them a confession or other damaging statement.

The research, which was based on a re-analysis of data culled in 1975-76 in Birmingham and in 1979 in London, was specially prepared for the London Weekend Tele-

vision programme *Skin* broadcast yesterday, and has been passed to *The Times*.

The lecturers said the disparity between black defendants and white defendants lay partly in the fact that the blacks were younger than the whites. They, therefore, compared black people with white people in the same group.

In London, 52 per cent of whites aged under 21 confessed compared with 69 per cent of West Indians in the same age group. "It is clear that young West Indians are more likely to confess than the young of other racial groups", the researchers say.

They add that although the existence of the confessions virtually guarantees a conviction, few of the prosecution cases would have been fatally weakened without one. This applied particularly to black defendants.

The *Skin* programme concluded that the police use of confessions is not only damaging police-black relations but possibly threatening the administration of justice. Mr Tim Daly, a London Weekend reporter, said: "Many people are convinced that black suspects are singled out for particularly harsh treatment during questioning."

"This, they say, can result in false confessions or statements being made; which in turn explains the current state of retractions in court."

The case of David Holder, who was charged with robbery of a jewelry shop in Fleet Street during the Deptford fire march was described. After two interviews and two hours in police cells he confessed to a crime he did not commit. But when his case came up at the Central Criminal Court in February he retracted his statement, two crucial witnesses appeared on his behalf and he was acquitted.

Mr Paul Boateng, chairman of the Greater London Council's police committee, was quoted as saying: "You are much more likely to get a confession or a statement given under duress by a black person than by a white because both the fear and the actuality of violence exist to a far greater extent."

Abolitionism, report of the London Intermediate Treatment Association No 2, available from LITA, 43 Butler Rd, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 4DS. 75p plus 25p post and packing.



Animal passions: anti-vivisectionist demonstrators clashing with police on Saturday at the Porton Down germ and chemical warfare laboratories near Salisbury, Wiltshire, where 17,000 animals were allegedly used in live experiments last year. Twenty-four arrests were made. About 5,000 people took part in the protest.

Fight for region's EEC cash aid

From Ronald Kershaw, Barnsley

Mr Roy Mason, Labour MP for Barnsley, has secured assurances from three ministries that they will resist European Commission proposals to make Yorkshire and Humberside ineligible for European Regional Development Fund aid.

Mr Mason was told of the proposals by the Strategic Conference of County Councils in Yorkshire and Humberside which said the region's fate was being decided on out-of-date figures.

He said the commission intended to measure the economic underdevelopment of a region using an index figure which took into account the region's income and its long-term unemployment.

Mr Mason said it appeared that a region qualified for aid from the fund if it had an index of 75 or less. The strategic conference said the commission had used 1977 data to arrive at an index of 91 which disqualified Yorkshire and Humberside for aid. The strategic conference had calculated that using last year's figures the area's index would be 71.5.

TV accused over school vandalism

By Kenneth Goeling and Julian Haviland

The BBC television programme *Grange Hill* is partly to blame for school vandalism, Professor Arthur Pollard, Professor of English at Hull University, told an educational conference in London yesterday.

He told the National Council for Educational Standards that the series "had a lot to answer for" and said schools should get back to insisting on "unfashionable" concepts like duty, obedience and discipline from children. He added that punishment and not remedial treatment was the way to deal with young law-breakers.

Mr Edward Barnes, head of BBC television children's programmes, later defended *Grange Hill*. He said the series showed that stealing, bullying and vandalism were cowardly and wrong and eventually led to punishment.

Mr Barnes said that *Grange Hill*, which is not being screened at the moment but is due to return in the autumn, reflected life in comprehensive schools. Schools did not see things going on at *Grange Hill*.

"*Grange Hill* is carefully considered entertainment for children which contains a number of story lines with moral conclusions", he said.

Children discussing an episode would be able to see the consequences of thoughtless and cruel behaviour.

At the same conference, Mr Rhodes Boyson, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Education and Science, suggested that compulsory comprehensive education was to blame for secondary schools' failure to maintain the rapid improvement in examination results in the 1950s and 1960s.

In those 10 years the percentage of pupils aged 18 obtaining two or three GCE A-levels doubled, and a government paper estimated that the next 10 to 15 years would show such an improvement that by 1981 171,900 students a year obtain two or three A-levels.

But the number of 18-year-olds gaining A-levels last year was more than a third fewer than the estimate.

Mr Boyson said that in some areas the result of comprehensive reorganization seemed to have been mediocrity for all rather than high achievement for all.

Off the Road to the Isles

Taking the entrancing detour to Glen Uig

By Jonathan Wills

The trouble with the Road to the Isles is that most people follow it right through to the Skye ferry at Mallaig. They miss a great deal, notably Glen Uig, just eight miles off the road.

The word "scenic" loses its meaning when you get to Glen Uig. It takes some time to realize why the tiny seashore hamlet is so entrancing: everything is in miniature, like a Chinese watercolour landscape: hammocky hills straggle with natural woods, blanket-sized fields squeeze between glacial boulders; and there is a lobster-infested, corrugated coastline that must have been the despair of the early ordnance surveyors.

Shortage of people is Glen Uig's big problem. The local primary school closed long ago, and the children have to be taken by bus every day. The common Highland complaint is heard: too many holiday cottages and not enough work for local people.

Old Angus McIsaac sits by the fireside in his warm croft at Smeatary, dances a baby grand-daughter on his knee, and recalls the day when it was a different, if poorer, place. There were hearts in the now derelict houses over the hill; folk cut their own peats for fuel; there were several fishing boats, many of them went to the Merchant Navy, and the hill was fully stocked with sheep. Cattle, too, and plenty of them.

Angus is giving up his cows soon, and not just because of the bad day with the bull. He wants to enjoy his retirement and cattle tie you to the croft.

The story of the bad bull has now entered the folklore of Glen Uig. The Department of agriculture runs an excellent scheme, and everything usually goes to plan. The bull arrives in the cattle float from Inverness and proceeds to do its duty by the local cows.

This one was different. That was obvious as soon as he came down the ramp and butted Angus in the rump. "Put me right through the fence outside the pub, he did. I was all bruised."

Fifteen hundredweight of furious Shorthorn was then tethered to a steel post that they had been trying to pull out of the rock with a tractor.

Tore it up, just like that. We has to send him back. Poor beast, it was his first time, but he will be sausages now."

Back at the small hotel by the beach, the cassette machine is powered by a diesel generator. The main supply is not coming until later this year. The tapes are of "Ossian" and "The Boys of the Lough." No Muzak here.

Consumer laws at risk

By Hugh Clayton

Britain is likely to abandon one of the most comprehensive consumer protection laws of recent years because of evidence from grocers that it will not be applied fairly elsewhere in the EEC. The new law, embodied in the Food Labelling Regulations 1980, was agreed after almost 10 years of bargaining in London and Brussels.

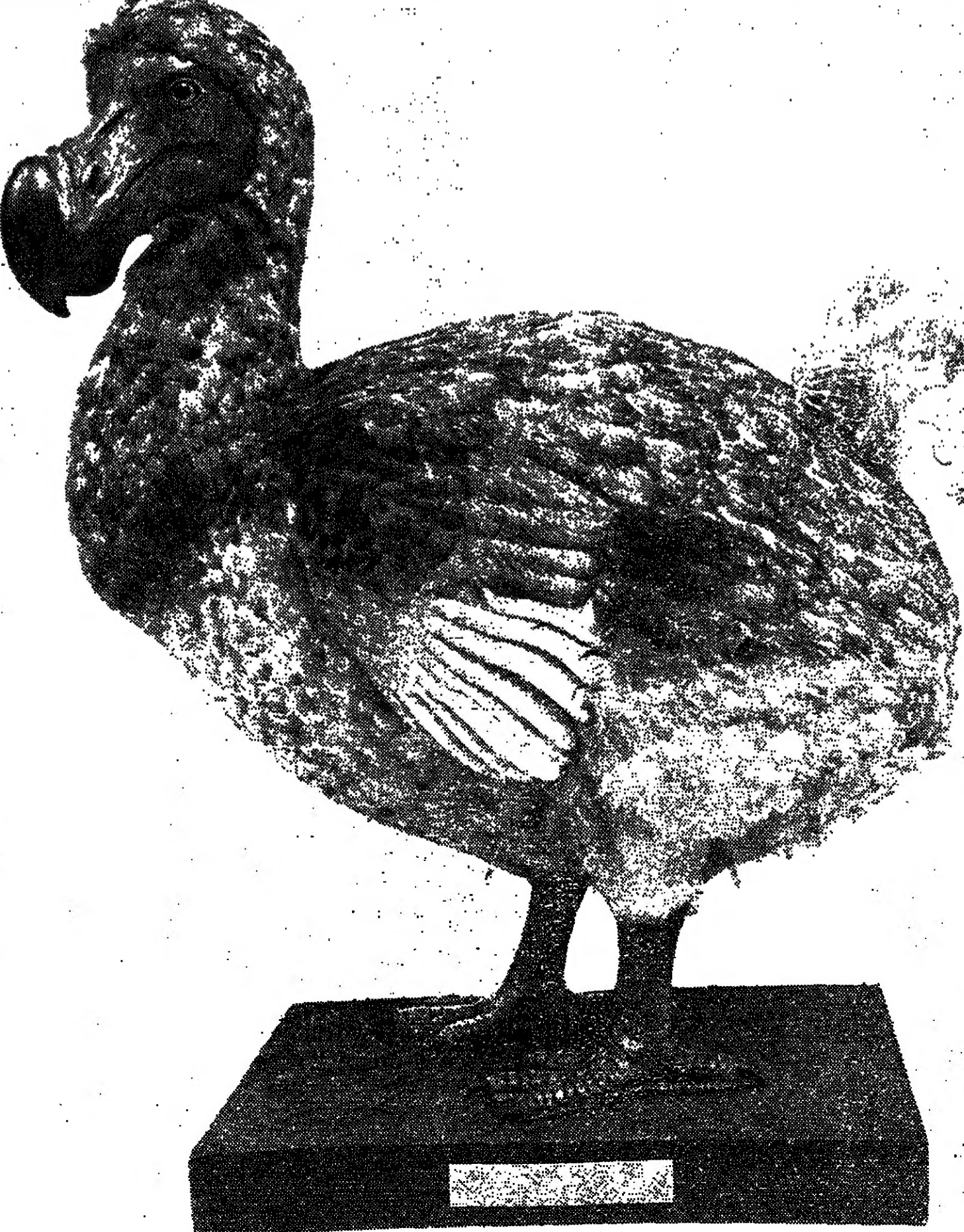
It was intended to take effect later this year to close many loopholes and to outlaw misleading claims about ingredients and health-giving properties of foods. It was also meant to increase the number of packed groceries on which processors had to declare ingredients, and the number of foods which had to carry the date by which they should be eaten.

Many factories are already complying with the new rules so European ingredient names are appearing on British labels while dates are being stamped on "long-life" products which never carried them before.

Grocers have told the Government there is evidence that the rules will not be applied in some EEC countries, so that they could gain an unfair cost advantage over their British competitors. Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, has asked in a letter to the European Commission for assurances that the rules will be policed throughout the community.

If no assurances are given by the commission, which has virtually no law enforcement staff of its own, the British Government will cancel the law which was passed by Parliament in 1980 with a built-in delay of more than two years to give the food industry time to comply with it.

Without one man, the Siberian Crane could be next.



Julian Pettifer meets Dr. George Archibald.

'NATURE WATCH'

Tonight 7pm.



Photograph by permission of the Natural History Museum.

Spadolini keeps a jump ahead in obstacle race

From Peter Nichols, Rome, April 25

The birth of Senator Giovanni Spadolini may give a sense of confidence but adds metaphorical weight to his own description of the prime minister's job as "a permanent obstacle race".

The next few weeks should show whether his hurdling skills will be sufficient to take formidable difficulties in his stride after the respite gained for him by President Pertini's personal intervention last week. Practically every newspaper had given senator Spadolini's coalition up for lost. All the symptoms were there for collapse. The five-party coalition was divided on the wisdom of going to the country of new elections. The predominant Christian Democrat Party was still living the divisive few days before its own national congress when the factions are normally at their most deadly. The congress is due to open in the first week of May. Socialist ambitions were clear from

towards National Socialism. This comment, made at a private meeting of Christian Democrats, angered the Socialist so much that they looked ready to abandon the Government and force elections if Senator Andreotta did not resign.

But Senator Andreotta could not resign, because his own party would have felt humiliated holding their national congress immediately after having been forced to give way to Socialist pressure. At this point the Prime Minister remained firm, warning his friends not to be misled by the predominant view that he had no alternative but to resign.

He was backed strongly by President Pertini, who wished to see neither a fall of the Government nor a dissolution of Parliament. The President called in the leaders of the principal parties, dismissed Senator Andreotta's reference to Nazi dangers as "disgusting" and then told them all to get on with governing. He added that, if he was worth a Mass, it would be to save a Government.

Senator Andreotta plans to see President Pertini tomorrow with a tape of his actual words about National Socialism. He, like everyone else, must realise that whatever satisfaction he might gain, the 85-year-old President pulled off a remarkable achievement in enforcing a truce on the quarrelsome coalition parties.

It is no more than a respite for Senator Spadolini, who has to gain approval for his budget estimates before the end of the year, and for a controversial Bill on severance payments which must be passed to avoid a referendum on the subject due on June 13.

The Socialists are still demanding a reappraisal of the coalition's working agreements as soon as the Christian Democratic Congress is over. A request which, at this stage in the life of a 10-month-old Government, might well be intended to result in its fall.

The fundamental question now being asked is whether President Pertini's intervention will have imposed on Italian politicians a lasting lesson in being less eager to bring down governments on comparative minor pretexts rather than attending to the nation's need for more governmental stability.



Senator Spadolini: weighty problems ahead

the phrase of the ambitious socialist leader, Senator Bettino Craxi, to the fact that his party's following in the country was now substantially larger than its mandate at the last election.

By the middle of last week, Senator Spadolini looked hopelessly trapped. One of his ministers, Senator Beniamino Andreotta, the Christian Democratic economist in charge of the Treasury, was reported as having referred to a Socialist electoral advance as a step



End of an era: The Israeli flag being lowered at Sharm-el-Sheikh to mark completion of the Sinai handover to Egypt after 15 years of occupation.

Coup judge replaced

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, April 25

Lieutenant-General Federico Gómez de Salazar took over this weekend as temporary president of the five-officer panel which is trying 33 military men and one civilian in connexion with last year's attempted coup.

The presiding officer until the weekend was Lieutenant-General Luis Alvarez who was taken to hospital in Madrid on Saturday suffering from a duodenal ulcer. His duties were assumed automatically by Lieutenant-General Gómez de Salazar as the next highest ranking officer on the panel.

The trial is about to begin its final phase when sessions resume here on Tuesday after a week's recess, so it is probable that the "temporary" president of the court will be the one who brings in the verdict.

General Gómez de Salazar, aged 69, led Spain's forces in the Western Sahara at the time of the "Green March" by unarmed Moroccan in 1975 and obeyed orders to avoid bloodshed. He later supervised the withdrawal of Spanish troops from the Sahara.

Brussels fire toll rises to 11

Brussels. — The toll in the fire which destroyed a Brussels house inhabited by Turkish immigrants has risen to 11 dead, with three or four people missing and presumed dead. Police said 27 people were registered as living in the house, in the working-class district of Saint-Josse. Nine people were injured in the fire, four of them seriously.

Five killed in Jakarta riot

Jakarta. — At least five people were killed and six others wounded when violence erupted on the fringes of a pro-government election rally here (Our correspondent writes). Hospital sources said the five dead had been shot by troops trying to break up rioting.

Trident fails

Cape Canaveral. — A United States Navy Trident missile exploded 63 seconds after it was launched by the Poseidon submarine George Bancroft off the coast of Florida. A spokesman said the missile self-destructed after malfunction.

Paper saved

Copenhagen. — Berlingske House, Denmark's biggest newspaper publisher, announced that 62 industrial firms, banks and private businesses responded to its call for 160m kroner (£10.6m) in new equity capital to save it from closure. It publishes Berlingske Tidende, the leading conservative daily and needs the money for new technology and redundancy payments.

Male bastion

Appenzell. — The all-male electorate of Switzerland's least populous canton voted by four to one against votes for women. The vote, by a show of hands, was taken at the annual male-only assembly that decides all important issues.

Refugee curb

Bangkok. — The United States has introduced a strict new policy on resettling Indochinese refugees to discourage more from leaving home, American officials said.

Pakistan clash

Karachi. — About 40 shops were burnt down and 13 people injured in a communal clash in Kashmir, in Pakistan's Sind province, which has a sizable Hindu minority. Offices of newspapers all over the country closed for the day as a mark of protest against the attacks on Friday by right wing students on two papers' offices.

Fishing boats held

Tokyo. — North Korean naval patrol boats captured five Japanese fishing boats, with a total of 60 crewmen, in the Yellow Sea.

Correction

An article on April 14 stated that in the 1971 war India seized 3,000 square miles of Pakistan's territory "which is still occupied". In fact, India later withdrew from all territories occupied during the war.

Sinai given back

Watchdog force goes on patrol

Egypt no longer in black book

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, April 25

Given their persistent demands for the return of land occupied since 1967, Arab reaction to the final Israeli withdrawal from Sinai today may have seemed ungenerous, even hostile.

Just a few hours before the last Israeli troops left Sharm el-Sheikh and Rafah the Syrians denounced the withdrawal as nothing but a replacement of Israeli occupation with American occupation. In the Gulf, several state-run newspapers took the same view, claiming that the international peace force in Sinai would merely act as a tool of Washington's policy in the Middle East.

But Arab governments were quick to realize that Egypt was now no longer obliged to remain quiescent in the face of Israel's continued occupation of other Arab lands, and several nations welcomed what they confidently believed would be Egypt's return to Arab ranks.

Al Rai, one of Jordan's better known daily papers, claimed that new dawn had risen over Sinai and that the return of the territory to Egyptian control was "something that all Arabs have welcomed".

Arab states which have regularly subjected Egypt to trial by newspaper since Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in 1977 used their leading articles today to give President Mubarak a plethora of emotional, if not very consistent, advice. The Saudi newspaper Al Nadwa urged Egypt to break all its shackles and to revive solidarity with your Arab sister countries", adding that "the last factors responsible for Arab fragmentation" had now been removed. Al Riqa, another Saudi daily, insisted that "Egypt constitutes the heart of the Arab world" and should be welcomed back by other Arabs.

The destruction of Yamit by Israeli troops was greeted in Muscat with the unlikely assertion in the daily paper Oman that "the Israelis were deceiving themselves when they destroyed houses and roads (there) because the Egyptians wanted Yamit just as pure as it used to be".

This contradicted the apparent desire of at least one group of Egyptians working in the Gulf area who, according to local Egyptian diplomats, purchasing their intention of rebuilding Yamit.

The grudging pleasure which the Arabs evinced at the return of Sinai reflected their embarrassment rather than any overall disquiet.

It has been extremely difficult for Arab nations such as Syria to welcome an Israeli withdrawal brought about not by armed force but by a peace treaty and diplomatic relations with the country which many Arabs still insist on labelling "the Zionist Entity".

If this political discomfort is only temporary, however, there is genuine fear in the Arab world that some conspiracy lay behind the original Camp David treaty and that Israel will now capitalize on her withdrawal from Sinai by taking harsh measures against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, and by increasing her threats against Lebanon.

Tel Aviv, April 25. — Minutes after the Egyptian flag was raised over north Sinai today, military patrols fanned out across the desert in jeeps to launch an 11-nation peace-keeping operation.

The patrol, officially called the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) has been set up under the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli Camp David peace treaty to prevent possible incidents when Israel completes its withdrawal. Its job is to patrol the 140-mile frontier and report peace treaty violations to both sides.

Edward Mortimer writes: The withdrawal was the second occasion in Israel's short history when it had withdrawn its forces from the Sinai peninsula. The first was in March 1957. That occupation had lasted only four months, and was ended under strong American pressure.

So that occasion Israel withdrew also from the Gaza Strip, which had been under Egyptian administration since 1948 as part of the British Mandated territory of Palestine.

Ten years later, on June 5, 1967, Israel again occupied both Sinai and the Gaza Strip. The United Nations Truce Supervision Force had been withdrawn at Egypt's request and Egypt had closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping.

On October 6, 1973 Egyptian forces crossed the Suez Canal and reoccupied a thin strip of Sinai along the Suez Canal. They were still there when fighting stopped three weeks later, although Israeli troops had meanwhile been through behind them and occupied a further area of Sinai.

Under the first disengagement agreement of January 1974, Israel withdrew from the West Bank of the Canal and from the area around A on the map, and under the second disengagement agreement, of September

er 1, 1975, from the area marked B. All those withdrawals were carried out under interim agreements, the assumption being that a final peace agreement between Egypt and Israel could only be part of an overall settlement.

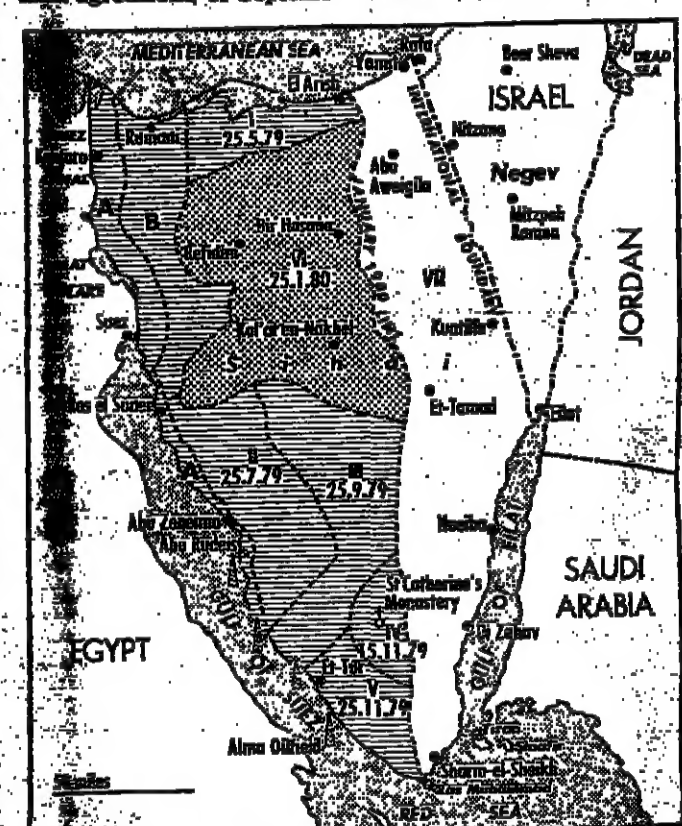
By contrast, the withdrawals from the areas marked with Roman numerals on the map, culminating in that of yesterday, were carried out in application of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty of March 26, 1979, which was itself an application of the Camp David framework agreed between President Sadat and Mr Begin on September 17, 1978.

Under the treaty, the withdrawal was to be accompanied by the stationing of the Multinational Force and Observers in two areas: one on the Mediterranean at the northern end of the international boundary and the other on the Straits of Tiran.

This force was to verify Egyptian observance of a demilitarized zone along the Egyptian side of the international boundary and the shores of the Gulf of Eilat, and to ensure freedom of navigation through the Straits of Tiran. The Multinational Force and Observers must also verify the limitation of Israeli forces in a very narrow strip of land along the Israeli side of the international boundary.

Originally, the United Nations was to provide the peacekeeping force but because of Arab hostility to the Camp David treaty a separate agreement was reached on June 25, 1981, to set up the Multinational Force and Observers.

The final composition of the force was agreed on January 31, 1982. The force of 2,669 men includes: United States (1,200), France (40), Britain (35), Holland (100), Italy (80), Australia (105), New Zealand (35), Fiji (500), Colombia (500), Uruguay (70) and Norway (4).



Map of Sinai Peninsula showing areas of Israeli withdrawal from 1974 to 1979. Horizontal shading A indicates areas recovered by Egypt before 1979, and B indicates areas recovered in 1979. Stages of withdrawal are indicated with dates: VII with dates, VII indicates the area returned to Egypt yesterday.

14 changes in Vietnam reshuffle

From David Watts, Singapore, April 25

The Vietnamese have unexpectedly shuffled leading government posts for reasons so far unclear. The shuffle follows the fifth party congress last month and further promotes one of the four young cadres now moving up quickly through the party.

Normally, realignments take place after sessions of the National Assembly in mid-year and in December. The changes may reflect the urgency of implementing the five-year plan aimed at solving the country's economic problems.

The principle change was the appointment of Mr Vo Van Kiet as a Vice-Premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission. He became a full member of the Politburo at the recent Congress and took over both posts from Mr Nguyen Lam.

Mr Van Kiet assumes a considerable accumulation of power and this reinforces speculation that the former party secretary in Saigon will eventually take high office. Mr Van Kiet's promotion was one of 14 changes and follows wholesale realignments in the middle ranks.

The following is a list of the principal Cabinet posts: Chairman (Prime Minister): Pham Van Dong; Vice-Chairman (Deputy Prime Minister): Pham Hung; Vice-Chairman (Deputy Prime Minister): Pham Hung; Vice-Chairman (Deputy Prime Minister): Pham Hung; Vice-Chairman (Deputy Prime Minister): Pham Hung.

Mr. Cyrankiewicz said the release would be a gesture to mark May 1 "rather than some sort of amnesty". — AFP

Anniversary celebration falls flat in Portugal

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon, April 25

Portugal today celebrated the eighth anniversary of the armed forces revolution amid grave economic problems and party disagreements which have prevented the solemn promotion of a reform constitution.

This was to have been the centre piece of today's anniversary with the reforms of the 1976 Constitution designed to facilitate Portugal's future European alignment in the EEC by removing the ideological commitment to socialism and putting the armed forces under the control of a civilian government.

To underline the disunity in the two main parties, the governing Socialist Alliance boycotted today's popular march through Lisbon to uphold the ideals of the April 1974 "Revolution of the Carnation". Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist leader, even used the occasion to call for early general elections.

The biggest surprise was the appearance for the first time of President Antonio Eanes at the traditional get-together held on the eve of the anniversary by largely left wing "Captains of April".

In essence the promises

made by the military to the people of Portugal have been fulfilled: they have got back liberty and responsibility for their own destiny.

For the moment, the street for the anniversary has a sour flavour with the Government of Senhor Francisco Pinto Balsemão having two days earlier announced a 30 per cent rise in bread prices.

This means that for the first time in this century in Portugal one of the staple foods will not be subsidized.

The Government's growing unpopularity brought criticism this weekend at a congress of the Prime Minister's Socialist Democratic Party, principal element in the coalition.

With Portugal's foreign debt at \$10,000m (£5,200m) representing half the gross national product and this year's current account deficit already worse than this time last year the bread price increase represents only the beginning of inevitable economic "medicine".

In spite of all the disillusionment over the revolution there are no signs that the mass of ordinary Portuguese would wish to go back to things before April 1974.

Solidarity gains release pledge

Stockholm. — Many members of Solidarity detained in Poland will be released at the end of the month, Mr Jozef Cyrankiewicz, a former prime minister, said today.

Correction and Announcement

CHARGE OF ADDRESS
The Front for the Liberation of Iran announces its new address:
F.L.I.
c/o I.C.D.
B.P. 225
75121 PARIS CEDEX 03



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FALKLANDS CRISIS



Faces of conflict (left to right): Señor Nicanor Costa Méndez, the Argentine Foreign Minister; military cooks receiving weapons training on board HMS Canberra; Royal Marines repatriated by the invaders but now on their way back to the Falklands; Miss Cindy Buxton, one of the two British film-makers still on South Georgia.

Costa Méndez says it is technically war

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 25

Señor Nicanor Costa Méndez, the Argentine Foreign Minister, arrived here today for talks on the Falklands crisis with Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, and to attend tomorrow's special meeting of the Organization of American States (OAS) which will consider possible measures against Britain under the 1947 Rio Treaty on collective defence. The British attack on an Argentine submarine and the landing on South Georgia have greatly increased the importance of tomorrow's meeting, which will be attended by representatives of the 21 signatories of the United States. The Argentines have already made the point that South Georgia falls within the geographic area covered by the treaty.

There was speculation here today that the incidents may persuade Argentina to call for tough action against Britain, possibly even asking other signatories to provide Argentina with military assistance.

Señor Costa Méndez underlined how seriously he considered the situation when he told reporters on his arrival in New York that Argentina was now technically in a state of war with Britain.

Earlier it had been expected that Señor Costa Méndez would attempt to invoke only Article 6 of the treaty, branding Britain as an aggressor. However, it was now thought possible that Argentina might try to invoke Article 3, which calls for armed assistance from all signatories.

Whatever steps Argentina takes will be opposed by the United States, which is trying to mediate between Britain and Argentina and hopes to defuse the situation before the shooting gets worse.

During last week's meeting of the Organization of American States which decided to convene tomorrow's special session, the United States made it clear that it considered any action under the Rio Treaty inappropriate so long as negotiations continued.

The United States is one of three countries that abstained when the organization voted last Wednesday to hold tomorrow's meeting. It is uncertain whether Argentina can expect to gain the same degree of support as it received last week if it calls for collective action against Britain. Several countries have made it clear that they would scrutinize very carefully any Argentine request for assistance. Some are likely to point to the section in the Rio Treaty which states that signatories should not take any action which runs contrary to the decisions taken by the United Nations.

Argentina is in breach of Security Council Resolution 502 which calls on it to withdraw its forces from the Falklands.

Tomorrow's meeting of the Organization of American States was expected to be the main topic on the agenda at this evening's meeting between Señor Costa Méndez and Mr Haig. Mr Haig was also expected to inform the Argentine Foreign Minister of the outcome of his talks last week with Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary.

Mr Pym took some American ideas for a settlement with him back to London on Friday night. However, he made it clear to Mr Haig before he departed that these ideas left a great deal to be desired, although they did provide the basis for negotiations to continue.

According to American sources, Mr Haig was left with a clear impression that the British intended to use force within the next few days. However, Mr Pym also made it clear to him that Britain still wanted Mr Haig to continue his diplomatic efforts even after the shooting began.

According to the sources the British told Mr Haig that an outbreak of fighting in the South Atlantic might persuade Argentina to soften its negotiating position and also lead to new moves in the Security Council.

The sources say there are two major obstacles in the

negotiations: Argentine insistence on its sovereignty over the islands being guaranteed and Britain's determination to uphold the islanders' right to self-determination.

According to a front page report in *The New York Times* today, high-ranking American officials have indicated that the United States will back Britain against Argentina if negotiations fail. The support would include America joining an embargo on Argentine goods, but not the use of American forces.

However, Mr John Tower, chairman of the powerful Senate Armed Services Committee, today urged the Reagan Administration to send naval units to support the Royal Navy task force in the South Atlantic.

In a television interview today Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador, said he was confident of American backing although he did not say what form that backing would take.

New York: Señor Costa Méndez arrived here expressing hope for a diplomatic solution (UPI reports). He said he had no immediate reports on damage to the attacked Argentine submarine but when asked if the fact that shots were fired would end the effort for a diplomatic settlement, he replied: "There is never an end to diplomacy."

A State Department spokesman said the incident is further confirmation of the gravity of the situation and demonstrated anew the urgency of a diplomatic solution. The United States remains committed to that objective and we will continue our ongoing efforts.

In an interview on board his aircraft before the submarine attack, Señor Méndez said he was hopeful about the Organization of American States meeting. "I believe Washington is going to be a demonstration of Latin American solidarity, and I believe that solidarity is one of the most certain ways to peace," he said, speaking in Spanish.

The statement issued by the Ministry of Defence pointed to the "additional measures" which it threatened more than two weeks ago when announcing a maritime exclusion zone around the Falklands.

The statement said: "In this connection Her Majesty's Government wishes to make clear that any approach on the part of Argentine warships including submarines, naval auxiliaries or military aircraft which could amount to a threat to interfere with the mission of British forces in the South Atlantic will encounter the appropriate response."

Rear Admiral John Woodward, the task force commander, was said to have been taking "appropriate action" in the incident involving the Argentine submarine at Grytviken, although later events suggested that this was part of a far wider plan.

It had been assumed for some time that Admiral Woodward would try to operate an air exclusion zone above the maritime exclusion zone, as soon as surface warships, capable of forcing entry, entered Falkland waters.

In the event this has not been created but the task force is operating a defensive "bubble" moving gradually westwards with the ships.

Surveillance of the force would still be possible by Soviet satellites, but these are not overhead all the time. Observation of the "defensive area" will be enforced by the Sea Harrier aircraft on board HMS Hermes and Invincible and the Sea Dart and Sea Slug missiles on the Type 42 and County Class destroyers respectively.

But weather in the area, including mountainous waves, could make Harrier operations impossible because of the effect on the carrier decks. But the fact that the defensive defence area was declared yesterday, some 36 hours after the warning was actually given to Argentina, must reflect Admiral Woodward's confidence in his ability to maintain it.

One question now is whether the force will extend the "defensive area" to cover the air space over the Falklands themselves when the ships with their accompanying aircraft have moved into a position in Falkland waters from which they could maintain such a threat.

"They must be scared to death by now"

'Defensive area' around fleet

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

First indications of a deepening crisis over the Falklands came early yesterday with the news that Britain had established a "defensive area" around the naval task force, which had been under surveillance by Argentine aircraft for several days.

The statement issued by the Ministry of Defence pointed to the "additional measures" which it threatened more than two weeks ago when announcing a maritime exclusion zone around the Falklands.

The statement said: "In this connection Her Majesty's Government wishes to make clear that any approach on the part of Argentine warships including submarines, naval auxiliaries or military aircraft which could amount to a threat to interfere with the mission of British forces in the South Atlantic will encounter the appropriate response."

Rear Admiral John Woodward, the task force commander, was said to have been taking "appropriate action" in the incident involving the Argentine submarine at Grytviken, although later events suggested that this was part of a far wider plan.

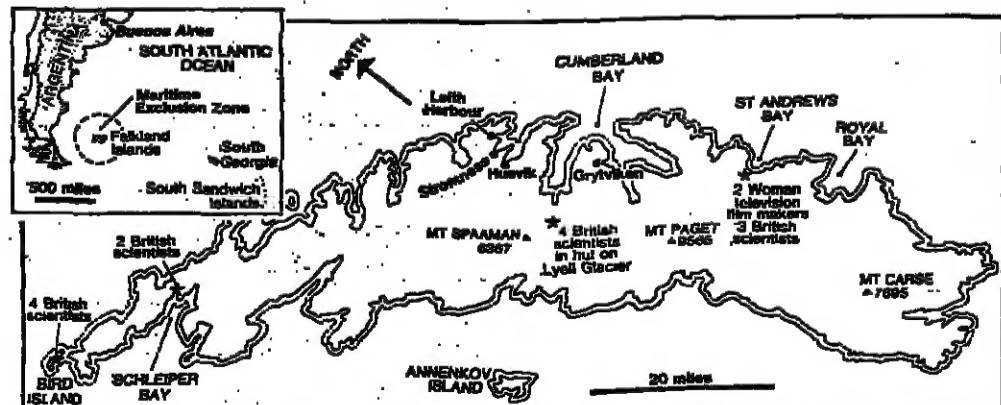
It had been assumed for some time that Admiral Woodward would try to operate an air exclusion zone above the maritime exclusion zone, as soon as surface warships, capable of forcing entry, entered Falkland waters.

In the event this has not been created but the task force is operating a defensive "bubble" moving gradually westwards with the ships.

Surveillance of the force would still be possible by Soviet satellites, but these are not overhead all the time. Observation of the "defensive area" will be enforced by the Sea Harrier aircraft on board HMS Hermes and Invincible and the Sea Dart and Sea Slug missiles on the Type 42 and County Class destroyers respectively.

But weather in the area, including mountainous waves, could make Harrier operations impossible because of the effect on the carrier decks. But the fact that the defensive defence area was declared yesterday, some 36 hours after the warning was actually given to Argentina, must reflect Admiral Woodward's confidence in his ability to maintain it.

One question now is whether the force will extend the "defensive area" to cover the air space over the Falklands themselves when the ships with their accompanying aircraft have moved into a position in Falkland waters from which they could maintain such a threat.



Centre of conflict: South Georgia and (inset) the maritime exclusion zone.

Echo of peaceful days

'Penguin News' avoids a flap

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires

The *Penguin News* journal of the Falkland Islands, had much more than its usual fare in its last issue. There was also the grievous matter of the road accident.

While the Argentines were mustering their Army the paper reported sadly that a Land-Rover and a Hillman Imp had collided in Port Stanley inflicting possible irreparable damage to the latter vehicle.

The newspaper, consisting of 15 stencilled and stapled pages is a classic of its kind, reflecting a way of life that has nothing to do with the world beyond. A few copies of issue number 19, the last before the invasion, have just arrived in Buenos Aires and are already collectors' items.

The paper carried extensive reports on the "invasion" of South Georgia by the Argentine scrap metal merchants but as for the prospects of an invasion of the Falklands it admitted humbly that "we still know very little". Seven days after publication the Argentines landed.

But it was better informed on the road accident, an occurrence that is rare indeed in Port Stanley, which had just 12 miles of made-up roads. Those who know the place say it is difficult to find anything to have an accident with, and indeed the *Penguin News* said that traffic "is fairly peaceful". Happily, it reported, nobody was injured.

The paper also reported the rather remarkable news that 11 Polish seamen had decided to settle in Stanley rather than go home to a dictatorship. "Some of the seamen have been quite daring. One young man shinned down a rope into the customs launch below. Others have simply wandered away from a recreation group ashore for an afternoon."

But alas, an Englishman sent to the town's jail for three months deprived the Poles of their home. Until the Englishman arrived they were sleeping in the prison but they had to move to the annex of St Mary's church.

On a less international note, the paper reported a good turnout for the annual vegetable show and announced that the Stanley soccer side achieved a "splendid" 5-0 victory over the Royal Marines.

And it revealed the juicy gossip that a school teacher, who was named, had fallen out with the superintendent of Education and got the sack.

And right at the end of the paper, in the editorial column, it said the islanders must not be allowed to gloat over the invasion of South Georgia. "RMS Endeavour, which is at last being provided with a chance to prove her worth, must ensure that the Argentines at Leith Harbour are deported from the Falklands Dependency."

If issue number 20 of the *Penguin News* ever appears, it should be an extremely interesting read.

Sea King crewman lost in sea

From John Witherow on board HMS Invincible April 25

The death of a crewman on board a Sea King helicopter in the South Atlantic has cast a shadow across the mission of the Royal Navy task force as it steams into increasingly severe weather conditions closer to the Falkland Islands.

It has also highlighted the efficiency and bravery of the men involved in the rescue operation, who for hours hovered only feet above the waves on a pitch-black night of heavy rain and lightning, to winch out the pilot and search for the missing man.

A helicopter from HMS Invincible was first on the scene on Friday night, hovering at less than 50 feet, and using its search and landing lights. It found only wreckage at first but after 20 minutes it discovered a dinghy containing the pilot.

Leading aircrewman Thomas Arnall, aged 24, was the winchman who was lowered into the heavy swell to grab the pilot, who had managed to escape from the sinking helicopter. They took him to HMS Hermes, where the helicopter was based, then returned to continue the search which carried on throughout the night and the next day, and involved several ships and helicopters.

It was the first time that leading aircrewman Arnall had been involved in an air-sea rescue, but he read his notes in a matter-of-fact way, and described the incident as "like a speedway training sortie". He was dropped 20 or 30 yards from the survivor and trailed towards him.

"On the third attempt, the pilot grabbed my wrist, pulling us up together. He was sitting in the life-raft with no helmet. I asked him if he was OK and he said 'yes', and I said 'good man'. He then asked me did I see the tail section. He said he had tried to get inside it. He knew his crewman had been in the back", he said.

Sub-lieutenant Christopher Howarth, aged 28, who piloted the rescue helicopter, with the aid of Prince Andrew, also a sub-lieutenant, added: "We were told to get airborne and home in on the beacon. We searched around until we spotted him in the water. He was about four or five miles away."

"We could see one of the flotation bags from the undercarriage. I don't know why the aircraft had gone on. There was no moonlight to help us at all. It was pitch black."

"The pilot had grazes on his face and hands, and he was limping but he was coherent. We asked him how many had been in the aircraft. He said he last saw the crewman just before they impacted and had not seen him since. He had come forward to help the pilot."

Lieutenant Commander Ralph Wykes-Smyth, in charge of HMS Invincible's 820 Squadron, said such accidents had become increasingly rare in the Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm in the past 20 years, although last year two helicopters from the Invincible collided off the Isle of Wight, killing five.

Spy charge: Journalists face trial

From Our Own Correspondent Buenos Aires, April 25

An Argentine federal judge has ruled that three British journalists must face trial on charges of spying. Judge Carlos Sagastume said he did not think they were habitual spies but, given the situation, it was possible that they had acted from patriotic motives or explicit instructions. Material in their possession could, in the opinion of the military, damage the interests of the state if it were put in the hands of a hostile power.

Mr Simon Winchester of *The Observer* and Mr Anthony Prime, a photographer for *The Observer*, were arrested last Tuesday week while sitting in the coffee shop at the airport in Rio Grande, Tierra del Fuego. They had flown in from Ushuaia in the extreme south of the country and were awaiting their aircraft to Buenos Aires.

They were taken in custody to Buenos Aires and interrogated. After a few days they were returned to Ushuaia and last week were questioned by Judge Sagastume in preliminary hearings to decide whether there was a prima facie case against them.

They are now being allowed to receive telephone calls and the authorities seem to be going out of their way to ensure that they are well treated. They are being provided with English language books, and are receiving legal representation. Representatives of both newspapers are in the town.

The Pope's plea: Pray for peace

From John Earle Rome, April 25

Pope John Paul today expressed alarm at the prospects of fighting between Britain and Argentina, and made a call for Catholics to pray "in this perhaps decisive hour" for a peaceful solution to the Falklands dispute.

In an address to pilgrims in St Peter's Square from a window of the Vatican Palace on a cold and wet day, he recalled that he had appealed repeatedly in recent days for a peaceful solution.

He asked Catholics throughout the world, and particularly in Argentina and Britain, to join him in prayer "that the Lord may inspire the responsible rulers with decision and courage to seek, in this perhaps decisive hour, the paths of understanding, with wisdom and magnanimity, for the irreplaceable good of their peoples and for the tranquillity of the American continent."

Opinion poll: 79% support

By Our Foreign Staff

The British public continues to support overwhelmingly the Government's policy of negotiating from a position of strength over the Falklands dispute.

According to a public opinion survey carried out by Opinion Research for Independent Television's *Weekend World* programme, support for the government's Falklands policy was running at 79 per cent last week. Eleven per cent of those interviewed were opposed to the way the Government was handling the crisis and a further 10 per cent were undecided.

Support for putting the lives of British servicemen at risk during the crisis was, however, only lukewarm. A full 52 per cent of the survey believed that servicemen's lives should not be jeopardized, compared with 41 per cent who thought they should. The remaining 7 per cent were undecided.

This second finding must cause concern for Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues, particularly now that the first shots have been fired between Britain and Argentina.

Nott accused of gagging MPs

An MP who is demanding to know why Britain supplied military spares to Argentina as late as March 22, claimed today that he had been forbidden to raise the issue in the House of Commons.

Mr Douglas Hoyle, Labour MP for Warrington, said he had had to resort to the "very much second best" of writing instead to Mr John Nott, the Defence Secretary. He claimed Mr Nott had "blacklisted" Commons questions on the subject.

Mr Hoyle added that a query had been raised by Ministry of Defence officials when the priority order for spares for Argentina was placed but that it was ignored.

Sanctions will be slow to bite

By Rupert Morris

France (2.7) are the only other countries to import significant quantities from Argentina.

The Blue Star Line, a subsidiary of the Vestey Organization, which normally carries 1,300 tons of meat from South America to Britain every three weeks, has been able to make up Argentina's usual quota by taking more from Brazil. Blue Star is doubtful, however, whether Brazil can continue to make up the deficiency.

Southbound cargoes to Argentina have declined over the past few years. Britain's exports to Argentina are so diverse, and so insignificant in industry terms that it is hard to quantify the effect of the Argentina ban as yet. The main exports are industrial machinery, but at less than £50m a year these do not involve any important projects.

The potentially far more significant EEC ban is of primarily symbolic value for the moment. Its practical effect will be clearer on May 17, when the EEC will review its position in the light of developments. All member states have ratified the EEC's decision.

Customs and excise departments are understood to be monitoring the ban and have not yet impounded any goods for breaches.

The Times Profile: the Duke of Edinburgh, by Philip Howard

Duke of all trades, master of most



On philosopher kings

'It is a naive appreciation of human nature to imagine that such processed paragons can be invested with the necessary powers and not be tempted to take advantage'

The Palace is a stage, and all the royals merely players, doing a good job of representing the dignified and formal parts of the British Constitution. And of them all the Duke of Edinburgh plays the most parts: sailor, pilot, wild life expert, spokesman for the conservation industry and at the same time an inimitable liquidator of pheasants, Admiral, Air Marshal, Colonel in Chief, youth leader, businessman, manqué, brisk moralist of the after-dinner speech, national pepper-up, handsome escort to an extraordinary dim procession of Presidents' wives. A man so various that he seems to be not one, but all the royal family's epitomes.

Next month he takes on a new role as intellectual by publishing a book of his beliefs about life and truth, and all that. It marks a transition. Suddenly we realise that the Duke we have known and loved and grown up with is in danger of becoming an elder statesman.

The familiar image of the tall man in a naval uniform, always a pace behind the Queen with his hands clasped behind his back at ease, alert, smiling, and ready to chat up anything that moves, is fading out of date. His sons are as tall as he is, and more glamorous to the glamour-struck generation. He is a father-in-law, and increasingly a grandfather.

Exit the sailor prince: enter the philosopher king of the tribe. It is an axiom of monarchy that the magic of a monarch becomes more potent as she or he grows older, because fewer and fewer of her subjects have known anybody else as their mascot head of state. The same process may well work with consort.

The old image of the Duke as dashing and glamorous partner to our Queen was formed in those days of starry-eyed royalty worship just after the war. I sat on the same platform as him four

On Christ

'He might be described as an underprivileged, colonial, working-class victim of political and religious persecution'

days before his engagement was announced. The occasion was the tercentenary of Cheam School, the oldest prep school in the country, or so we Old Cheesmites boast. I was head boy. Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten was our most famous old boy and star attraction for snobbish prospective parents. I cannot remember a word that he said (I was too frightened about my own speech). But I remember that it was confident, ringing stuff, and that we greeted it with rapturous applause and one of the earliest examples of a standing ovation. Well, we would, wouldn't we? He had just asked our famous headmaster, H. M. S. Taylor, for a whole day's holiday for us out of the hell-hole.

Here is a conventional view of the old-style Duke from the shocking pink pen of the step-grandmother-in-law of the Prince of Wales: "A very handsome, attractive and charming young man... He has been a rock of strength in her very arduous and exacting life. His sense of humour has also smoothed a path which is often thorny despite her brilliant intelligence and astounding knowledge of world affairs."

Here is a colder view from Willie Hamilton: "Perhaps with his great (and carefully calculated) talent for putting his foot in it, we might consider Prince Philip to be the most eloquent, literate and classless member of the Royal Family. Certainly his 'bluffness' has made him the white hope of the British middle classes: a man who 'speaks his mind' who has 'the common touch'."

And here is a more perceptive view from a more intelligent writer than either of them, Andrew Duncan: "He has the charisma of a Prince: tough-looking face, hard mouth, penetrating eyes, a voice pitched between arrogance and a certain peevish

On progress

'In every age the great human civilisations have depended far more upon emotional inspiration than upon the standard of plumbing'

querulousness, a heart-throb to the provinces, wise-cracking his way round the globe, peddling bright hopes and salutary advice. A man attractive to women, envied by men, a bit vicious on the polo field, autocratic, something of a ham actor - and in the red. He lives a good life, but he has to pay for it, and he has never been rich."

None of those views is quite right. You have to be taciturn to capture a man's character in a couple of sentences. But all three of them convey something of the old-style Duke Mark I. What about the new-style Duke, Mark II? On the cover of his book - *A Question of Balance* (to be published on May 24 by Michael Russell, £5.95), the old eagle-eyed, eagle-beaked face looks out at us challengingly (a bit arrogantly, a bit humorously) from the dust jacket, but he really is going bald. Inside are collected addresses he has given at various times on general subjects of life, and society, and religion.

Running through them is the Duke's belief in the importance of the individual, his dislike of state and corporate control, and his faith in the moral standards he was taught as a boy: the morality of cold baths, Christianity, cricket, and Kurt Hahn. He cannot decide whether his passion for individualism is due to what he learned about Christianity as he grew up, or whether he learned more about Christianity from the discovery of individualism. But for him they go together like bacon and eggs or op and acetone. He believes that Christianity and individualism are linked together, and from what I see going on in the world around me, I am very much inclined to believe that religious conviction is the strongest and probably the only factor in sustaining the

On education

'Learning against a background of no experience means that there is no way of assessing the importance or the relevance of what is being taught'

dignity and integrity of the individual.

Armed with this dialectic he takes on the dragons of the modern world. There is a hearty though superficial dual demolition of Marxism. It runs roughly, compressing it a bit: Marx's weakness was a hopelessly unrealistic understanding of human nature. His obsession with science and scientific socialism, with materialism and dialectics, and with academic research, blinded him to the power, variety and irrational nature of human emotions and talents, and to the fact that such qualities of human nature are equally distributed among all people regardless of class or intellect.

Christ only tried to influence men in their behaviour towards each other through their belief in God and promised paradise in the next world, whereas the middle-class intellectual sought absolute political power and expected to achieve paradise in this world. The Duke is on Christ's side. He goes on that it is one of the unfortunate rules of human nature that whenever people get on to a good thing, they promptly overdo it. "Selfishness" and thoughtlessness are more to blame than malice. The classic flaw in Marx's ideas was that scientific answers could be applied to social issues.

Another point he makes: the idea of taking away property from other people has much more appeal if one has none of one's own. One of the products of our confiscatory taxation is the rapid and extensive development of fringe benefits, tied to particular jobs in the same way as the old agricultural tied cottage. The beneficiaries feel that they have gained something, but they seem to be unaware that they are in danger of becoming virtual slaves of their employers or of the State. After all, slaves live

On Karl Marx

'One of Marx's worst miscalculations was to forget that if you threaten people with death or the expropriation of their property they are unlikely to give you their loyal support'

entirely on fringe benefits. Marxists personify certain classes as evil, and use words as subjectively as Humpty Dumpty. Now for the first time since mankind and Marx took off on their materialist spree, there are signs that human, ethical, and moral values are coming to be seen as more important than the most glittering products of engineering genius.

"There will doubtless always be a proportion who will enjoy reverting to standards of behaviour which even our remote ancestors would have found idiotic and revolting, but surely it is not too much to hope that more and more people will come to realise that it is men and their behaviour, their emotions, their conflicts, and their ideals which govern the future."

We have rated computers above compassion, machines above mercy, and telecommunications above human relations. And so, against your teeth, Karl Marx. The Duke has a taste for alliteration. There are apt citations of sages from Aristotle to Adam Smith and de Tocqueville. Since he has exposed himself to scholarly quibbling, I doubt whether he was wise to pick Hadrian's Wall as an example of a wall built to keep foreigners out, and the Berlin Wall as the first wall in history designed to keep its citizens in. Quite a respectable body of scholarship believes that Hadrian's Wall as the northern limit of the Empire was built to do just that.

The Duke goes on to consider truth, and stays for the answer that peace, love, and beauty cannot be obtained by falsehood. He flashes his old dislike of a man without a degree, of university education being considered the highest sort of education. He is against Keynes, in favour of large doses of organized work or rehabilitation for young offend-

On sex education

'It is rather a sad commentary that of all the functions of our bodies, the only one that schools feel worth bothering about is the reproductive system'

ers, and married about the population explosion: "The trouble is that there are so many females of breeding age who are either ignorant or irresponsible, or sometimes both ignorant and irresponsible, and so many men to encourage them to be irresponsible."

What are we to make of all this? One could say that we are indeed lucky in our Elder Statesman Duke. It is admirable and rather touching that he takes so much trouble and thinks so hard about issues addressed to people who only do not mind what he says so long as he dignifies them with his presence. There is considerable bluff common sense and decency in here.

One could say that as an intellectual exercise it is like a dog's walking on his hind legs. It is not wrong, but you are surprised to find it done at all by

On nationalisation

'Substituting Parliament for shareholders does make it more difficult for Parliament to treat all sectors and sections of the State with complete impartiality'

a member of the royal family. Reading it straight through is rather like swimming in chilled mud: bracing, but exhausting. There are rather too many of H.M.S.T.'s thunderous and harsh old simplicities still echoing from Sunday sermons a generation ago.

One could say that if there were to be a right-wing coup in this country, the Queen and the Prince of Wales would be sent as irredesimably wet, to Balmoral as our native equivalent of Siberia; and that the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Andrew would be used as figureheads by our Colonels. To say that would be in bad taste, as well as a joke, as well as perhaps High Treason.

The middle-aged view is that none of those explanations is the whole truth, but that there is a bit of truth in all of them. But then, we are all growing middle-aged, not just our Elder Statesman.



Cheam School 1947: Philip Howard, head boy (left), Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, Hugh Farmer and Lord Sherwood

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

See most recent cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office outside London Metropolitan Office.

OPERA & BALLET

COVENT GARDEN 8.00-10.00 p.m. (Concerts of the 1982-83 season, from 10.00 on the day of performance.)

THE ROYAL BALLET

Tonight 7.30, The Sleeping Beauty. Wed 8.15, 10.15, Les Deux Pigeons. Sat 8.15, 10.15, The Sleeping Beauty. Festival Royal Opera.

Tomorrow 7.30, Cavendish Palace. Rehearsal, 10.15, 12.30, Eugene Onegin.

BALENS WELLS THEATRE, ECI. 8.15, 10.15, 12.30, Les Deux Pigeons. 7.30, 9.00, 10.15, The Sleeping Beauty. Festival Royal Opera.

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CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL, Barbican Centre. 8.15, 10.15, 12.30, Les Deux Pigeons. 7.30, 9.00, 10.15, The Sleeping Beauty. Festival Royal Opera.

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THEATRES

CREDIT THEATRE INSTANT BOOKING SERVICE. NOT LINES.

ALBANY - Children of a Lesser God. 8.15, 10.15, 12.30, Les Deux Pigeons. 7.30, 9.00, 10.15, The Sleeping Beauty. Festival Royal Opera.

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On nationalisation
Substituting Parliament shareholders does make it more difficult for Parliament to treat all sectors and sections of the State with complete impartiality.

A member of the royal family, Prince Charles, is thought to have been involved in the purchase of a BMW 3 Series car. The car was bought for £10,000 and was used by the prince for a number of years. It was later sold for £5,950.

It is said that if the prince had not bought the car, it would have been sold for a much lower price. The car was bought for £10,000 and was used by the prince for a number of years. It was later sold for £5,950.

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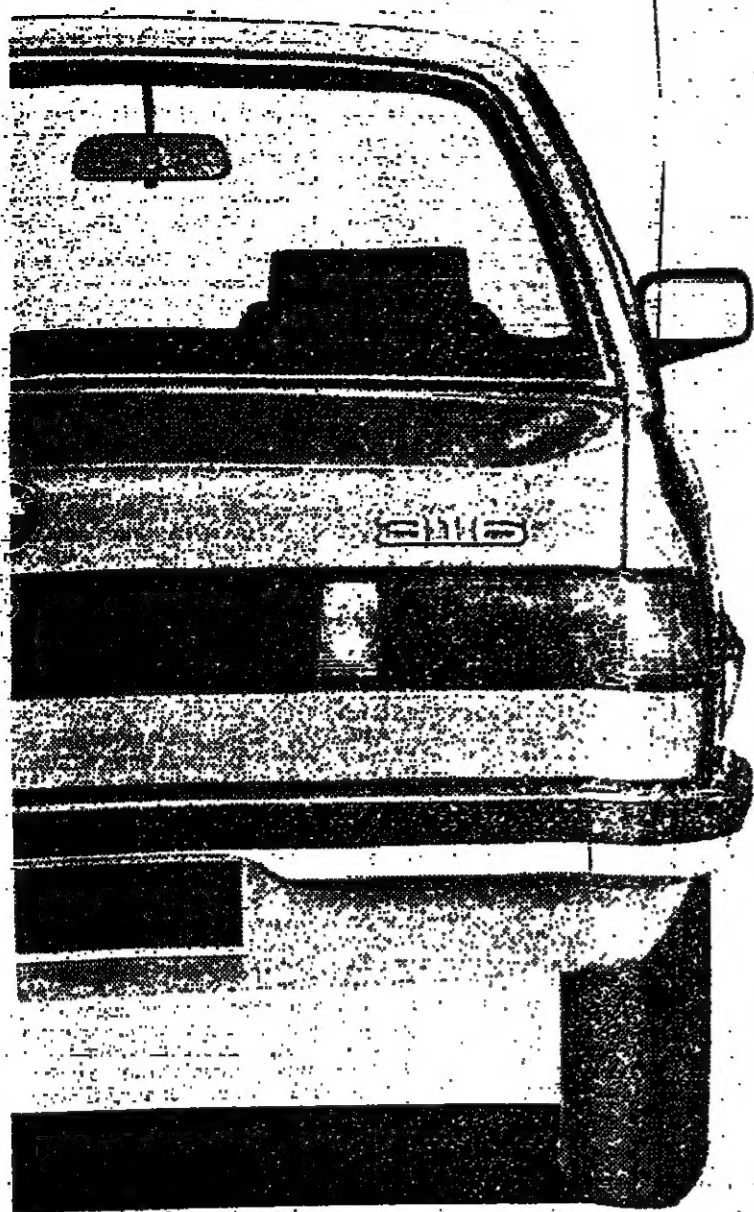
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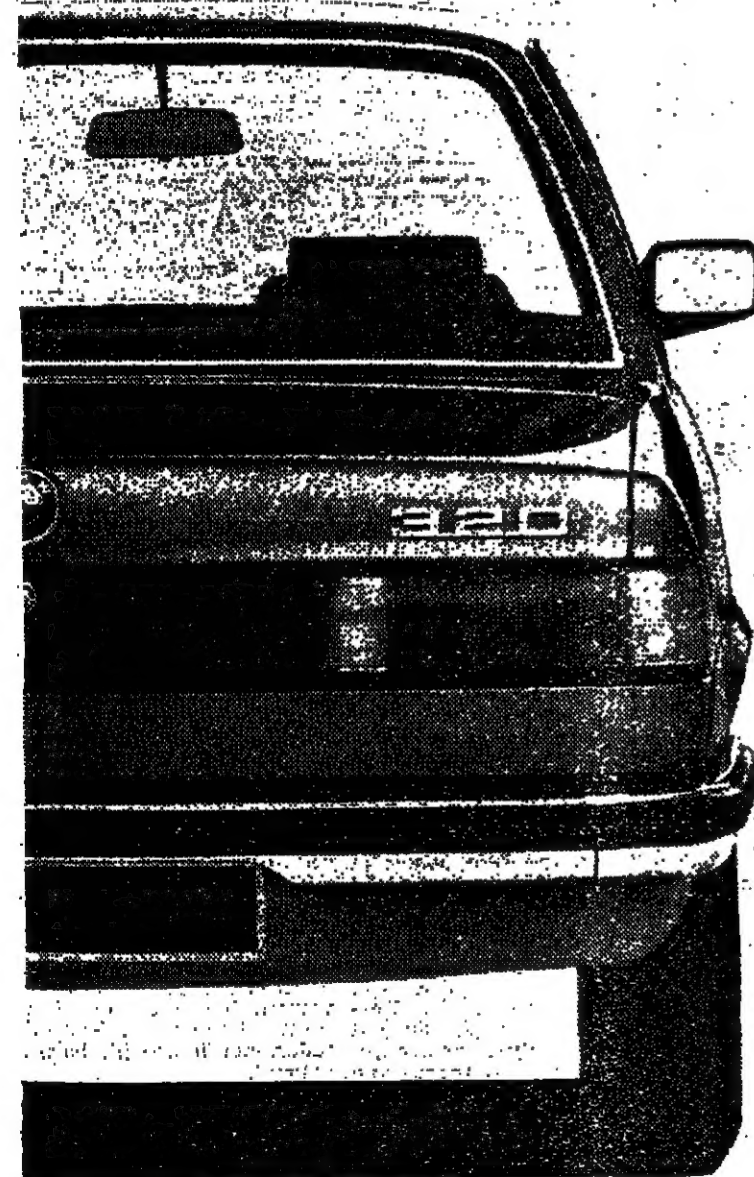
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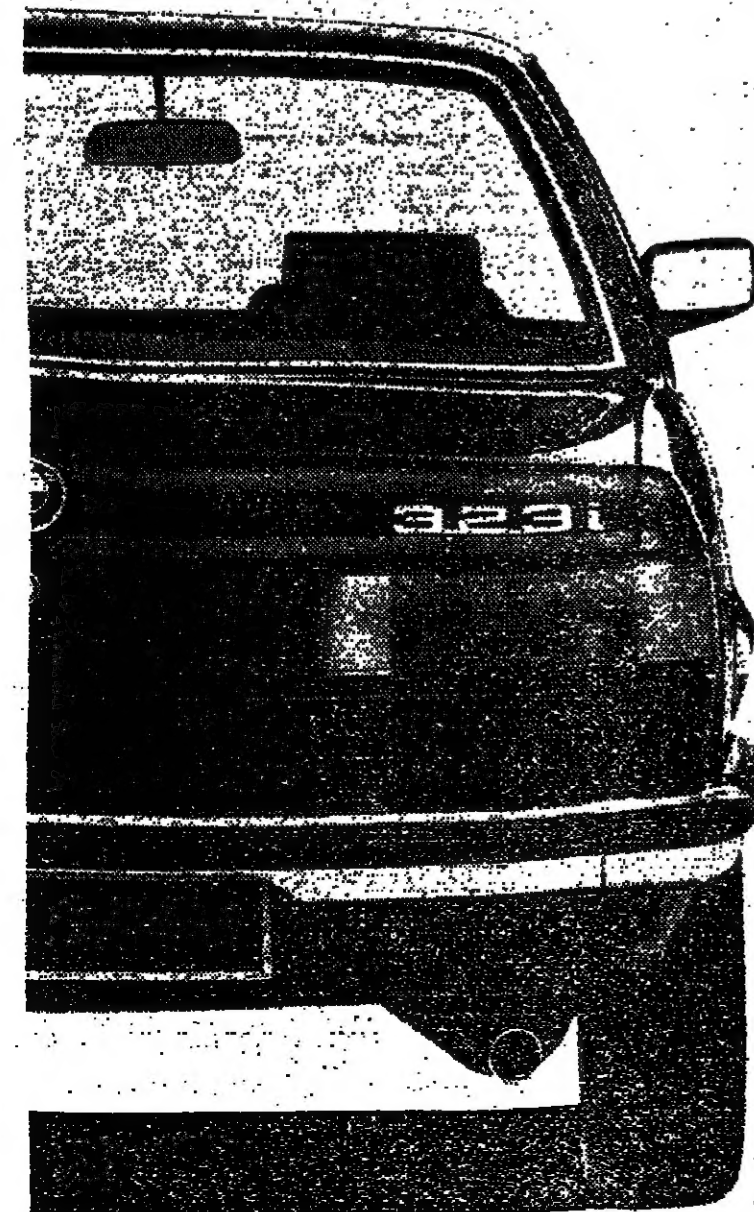
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It may surprise you to learn that you can afford to buy a car built to the same standard as a large £22,000 BMW saloon.

It's called the BMW 3 Series. And it's a convincing demonstration, if one was needed, that a car's quality cannot be measured by mere size.

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Nor do BMW's quality control inspectors have a lower standard for their less expensive cars.

CREATED EQUAL

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The results of these efforts is a BMW 3 Series, that, to quote Motor magazine, "feels put together with more care than is appropriate for the price."

"It is," they conclude, "a luxury car made smaller rather than a volume car made more expensive."

It's a verdict that reflects the sheer level of engineering refinement concentrated into BMW's smallest car.

The 316, for example, now sports a 1.8 litre engine developed from the unit that's powered so many Formula Two winners.

The extra power is used not to boost the 0-60 mph performance but to provide extra muscle in the crucial 30-50 mph overtaking phase.

So the engine emerges 18% quicker in this respect, yet overall its fuel consumption has been reduced by 5%.

The two litre 320 is equipped with a six cylinder engine, instead of the four cylinders that most two litre cars have to make do with.

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Finally, there's the 323i to demonstrate that you don't have to trade in your family if you want to own a sports car.

Its fuel injected 2.3 litre engine has so much torque that it achieves the almost unique distinction of going from 50-70 mph as quickly as it goes from 30-50 mph. And now both the 320 and 323i are fitted with a 5 speed overdrive gearbox as standard.

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For it holds its value, on average, twice as well as other cars in its price class.

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Which is why if you're planning to spend between £6000 and £9000 on a car, we suggest you send for your BMW 3 Series Information File as quickly as possible.

It would be a pity, after all, if you had to settle for an inferior car to the one you can actually afford.

Please arrange a test drive for me in the BMW 3 series ☐
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Address

Postcode

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Present car

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THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MACHINE



How to do a deal without a sell-out

Until three weeks ago British public and political interest in the 149-year-old dispute over the Falklands had been transient. A real understanding of the issues, the nature and character of the islands, had been confined to those relatively few people who had made the 8,000-mile journey. Now — a possibility heightened by the submarine incident yesterday — British servicemen, islanders and Argentines could be locked in combat over territory which few really know and understand.

There is now a widely held view that the Foreign Office has always wanted to get rid of the islands. On the contrary, the Foreign Office has always held a profound and genuine concern for their welfare, though understandably both the Office and its ministers have been bound to consider the wider implications for Britain's international relationships. If there was a "Foreign Office view" it was a gradually increasing pessimism about the islands' economic, political and security future.

These assessments and attitudes prompted the initiative in 1975 of sending an economic mission to report on the problems and potential of the islands; the report was to provide the basis for future discussions with the Argentines.

As with so much else in our Falklands/Argentine dealings it was utterly misinterpreted by the Argentines. They saw the appointment of Lord Shackleton, son of the intrepid explorer, as a deliberate challenge.

It was my first taste of a

Falklands' crisis. One never easily forgets sitting in an office receiving regular reports from a ship under shell fire, with a captain turning a blind eye to the shells and steadily sailing back to Port Stanley. Individual acts of bravery and nerve noticeable in the current crisis have their antecedents.

Lord Shackleton reported in July 1976. His recommendations ranged from the multi-million pound proposal to extend the airstrip to details concerning the grasslands trial unit. The report identified the major resources of krait and fish in the area and underlined the potential of oil.

Simultaneously we had been considering the political/sovereignty options, including a condominium and a Hong Kong-style lease. Neither of these was launched. Instead, on February 2, 1977, Tony Crosland announced that "new developments (a reference to the Shackleton report) required a framework of greater political and economic co-operation. Without such a framework the prospect of achieving a prosperous and durable future for the islands is bleak."

I was dispatched to the Islands tragically during the very week that Tony Crosland collapsed and died.

I had not appreciated the true nature and character of the Falkland Islands and their people until my visit. The few hundred islanders who travel regularly to Britain disguise the fact that the vast majority have never been off the islands. Some have not even been to Port Stanley.

Their traditions are British. Their roots are deep in the islands. Their ties with Britain are historic and possibly family, but not physical. I therefore find it deeply distasteful to listen to some of those who, having roundly con-

demned Mr Tebbit for urging that we "get on our bike" to find jobs are now advocating the extreme equivalent for the islanders, that they should be transported either to council houses in Britain or distant sheep farms in New Zealand.

I found the islanders fearful of the Argentines and suspicious of British ministers. Tragically, recent events have proved those fears and suspicions to be justified. After extensive consultations with councillors and in almost every settlement, woolshed and farmyard, it was agreed that we should open negotiations on our economic and political relations with Argentina, including sovereignty.

The islanders' view was straightforward — "go and find out what you can get for us and report back".

From an early date the negotiations were clouded by distrust and deceit, particularly after our discovery in 1977 of a nonsensical but symbolically significant Argen-

tine gesture in occupying illegally one of the most southerly parts of the South Sandwich Islands — Southern Thule. At first they denied it and then explained it away in terms of a temporary Argentine scientific exploration mission.

The Southern Thule affair undermined much of our confidence in meaningful negotiations. The Argentines were revealed as untrustworthy cheats. The assumption, thereafter, had to be made that even if one carried on negotiating then it was vital to do so from a position of best possible strength. It had to be made absolutely clear to them that any attempt to change the balance of negotiations, altering fundamentally the existing sovereignty position by force, would be met by force. They had to be deterred, and they were until a fortnight last Friday.

Looking back on two years of discussions, fraught and distrustful as they were, I believe we were perhaps groping towards some ideas and solutions which may have relevance for the future. A clear distinction can be made between sovereignty involving people, their homes and communities and sovereignty over resources. I should not consider it a betrayal or sell-out if a British government sought a solution involving changes in sovereignty over resources in return for the absolute sovereignty over people, their homes, land and communities — a people who have been and wish to remain British in the Falklands.

Sovereignty is not some high sounding concept devised by international lawyers to keep themselves in business. It has a whole series of practical dimensions. Whose currency rules? Who controls internal and external

security? Who will represent the islanders in the international community? Does one concede the right of Argentines to enter or leave without immigration procedures? Will they have the right to purchase land? A numerous land deal involving Mr Jimmy Goldsmith and Argentine financiers was scotched a year or two ago by our clear declaration against any alienation of Falklands' land.

Because of the invasion, things will never be the same for the islanders. Some commentators have concluded that, as a consequence, they will now be forced to accept unpalatable solutions previously rejected. I challenge that.

First, I have always assumed that all our efforts in resisting the aggressors is to re-establish the islanders' freedom of choice. Secondly, we must not underestimate the immense impact on Argentina's rulers if they are forced to leave under the combined international diplomatic, economic and British military pressure.

Future Argentine leaders will not easily forget the sight of Argentines queuing at the banks to withdraw their pesos, the disruption of their major trading links with Europe, and the prospect of the destruction of their cherished fleet.

Therefore, from the present conflict there may emerge meaningful negotiations and from them a system of shared sovereignty over the resources of the area, combined with Argentine and international recognition of the islanders' true sovereign rights. That must be our objective.

The author is Labour MP for Merthyr Tydfil.

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Could Reagan really rattle the Kremlin?

In the office of one of the President's foreign policy advisers in Washington hangs a mock poster advertising a film called *Bedtime for Brezhnev*. The star, a certain Ronald Reagan, is depicted holding an unshaven and vicious-looking Leonid Brezhnev by the lapels, while the Soviet leader's black-hatted cronies — Fidel Castro and Colonel Gaddafi, no less — grimace helplessly. Mr Reagan — clean-shaven, firm-jawed — is flanked by Vice President George Bush and Henry "Doc" Kissinger, both in white suits. "From out of the West," reads the caption, "they dusted off their guns, and rode out to protect the world they knew and the women they loved."

The "get tough with the Russians" school of diplomacy has in fact taken a few knocks in the 15 months since Mr Reagan was elected, due partly to growing criticism of high defence spending at a time of economic recession, and partly to growing public anxiety over the possibility of nuclear conflict.

There is still a great deal of support for the Administration's view of the global struggle against communism, with the hand of Moscow always in every conceivable crisis. Soviet aid to Argentina over the Falklands being only the latest example. But there is also pressure — particularly from businessmen and farmers — for a more realistic approach.

Russia, coupled with general concern about the Administration's ability to take the measure of Soviet mischief-making.

The idea of a summit meeting between the two superpowers — Mr Reagan is 72, Mr Brezhnev 76 — was first put forward by Moscow, and ignored by Washington, but has now been revived by Mr Reagan.

It may have been a ploy, based on the assumption that the Soviet leader would be too old to make it. But Mr Brezhnev has bounced back, promising a "neutral country" of New York to host the summit, and the autumn instead of the summer as the time.

This leads some to suspect that although Mr Reagan is physically fitter than Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet leader is faster on his feet politically, and despite the fact that he is now a lame duck, he has the advantage of Soviet guile, experience and continuity.

For Americans, by contrast, are still arguing about whether to adopt a more aggressive attitude towards the Soviet Union at a time when the Kremlin is entering a succession crisis. In the battle for Reagan's ear, the "hardliners" favour continuing the Soviet Union's economic embargo, and the "softeners" favour a more conciliatory approach.

For the most part gentle and mild-mannered, Hopkinson also has a streak of toughness. When a series of articles he wrote for the *Rand Daily Mail* brought him into conflict with the South African government, a Nationalist politician went too far and said that Hopkinson was a bastard — or, to be precise, his father was a bastard. Hopkinson sued, doing so, he said, not so much on his own behalf but on that of his father, who happened to be the Archdeacon of Westmorland. He got his money.

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Donald Macintyre

unity" which it can use either to put pressure on the Russians or, in an extreme case — though this is a minority view — to precipitate a crisis of the Soviet system itself (not so much *Bedtime for Brezhnev*, more *Apocalypse Now*).

At the other end of the spectrum are those who see the Soviet Union as a power which — regardless of who is in charge of its destinies — has continuing and legitimate interests which have to be accommodated. Russia, such "moderates" argue (using "hardliners" and "moderates" as rough and ready guides) is both insecure and adventurous, self-sufficient and in need of Western help.

So what is needed is something not so far removed from the web of relationships which Dr Kissinger sought to construct with incentives for "responsible behaviour" by the Russians, penalties for the opposite, and a strong military posture.

The accusation that Reagan's foreign policy is largely a theatrical strike is not entirely fair. There is widespread agreement within the Administration that the Soviet Union has been able to exploit loopholes in SALT I and II to build up its nuclear arsenal, especially ICBMs, and that further negotiations on strategic arms reduction (not significantly, limitation) must avoid the mistakes made in earlier negotiations.

According to Eugene Rostow, head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the American position on START will include calculations involving both numbers of warheads (not launchers) and "throw weight" or destructive power. President Reagan is expected to make an announcement about START when he visits Europe in June, and at the United Nations Disarmament Conference the same month.

The drawback of the American approach is that it assumes Soviet willingness to negotiate away the lead which Washington claims the Russians have unfairly established.

Most Americans sympathise with the need to restrain the Soviet Union, and to deal with it from a position of strength. But how, some of them ask, does the Administration's picture of Russia as being "insecure, vulnerable and crumbling empire square with its image of Russia as an omnipotent, omniscient and infinitely resourceful enemy? If the two images are compatible, rather than mutually exclusive, how should American policy towards Moscow be conducted?

There are no clear answers, and the tug of war continues. Although Mr Haig, Mr Weinberger and the White House staff contradict one another less in public than they did, the Administration continues to speak with several, often conflicting voices. Mr Reagan himself is vulnerable, inexperienced and ill-informed, as are his advisers. "With partial exceptions, like arms control, this Administration doesn't actually have a policy towards Moscow," says one veteran observer of East-West relations. "It has attitudes, but it doesn't have a policy."

Many Americans find that disturbing. The Russians, assuming they share that judgment, presumably find it reassuring. If so, the Soviet leadership — old, new or interim — might feel it can sit this one out and wait for the second term or, if he loses, or does not run — for his successor. The outcome, in fact, of Washington's own succession struggle.

Richard Owen

The man who first showed Britain the news

Twelve years ago, at an age when most men have already retired, Tom Hopkinson assembled 20 or so ill-assorted students at the recently and improbably renamed Centre for Journalism Studies at University College, Cardiff.

Today the Cardiff centre is part of the furniture of British journalism training. But in 1970 the one-year course of which those students were the guinea-pigs was understandably treated with scepticism and disdain by the university authorities and the newspaper industry alike.

Of the class of '71, some, unimpressed by the prospect of the hard slog of a provincial paper, went on to sensible jobs like management traineeships at Marks and Spencer. But three embarked on successful careers with the BBC and others went to regional weekly or evening newspapers. One, Brian Wilson, by Hopkinson's delight, went off to found the *West Highland Free Press*, the Hebridean weekly which earlier this month celebrated its tenth anniversary.

For many of us, the principal attraction of the course was Hopkinson himself. A man who had come through advertising and publicity to edit the most successful British picture magazine ever, and was sacked at the height of his success; an editor who managed to be a serious writer throughout his career and successive marriages to three remarkable women; and who was persuaded by the third, Dorothy, to make a fresh start in South Africa at the age of 50 running *Drum*, a pathfinder magazine for blacks.

Whether he was talking about the discomfiting reaction of his friend George Orwell to the German invasion of Russia — "What



about the imprisoned writers?" or, as he did one sunny afternoon after the *Life* photographer Larry Burrows was killed in Vietnam, giving an impromptu lecture with slides on modern war photography, he always had something interesting to say.

Of this our time, the fascinating first part of Sir Tom Hopkinson's autobiography, is published today. It takes his story to just after his sacking in 1969 from *Picture Post*. There is at least one other volume in the pipeline.

Hopkinson's father, Henry, was a remarkable man, a classical archaeologist who asked his children — Tom was then nine — for their approval when he decided to throw up a comfortable academic life and become a clergyman. The family newspaper, not surprisingly, in a somewhat plain-living and high-thinking Lancashire household, was the *Manchester Guardian*. And it was there that Hopkinson vainly sought a job in his twenties.

"I thought all *Guardian* leader writers were tweed suits, smoked pipes, and had 'viers', he said last week. "But I was prepared to undergo all those hardships if I could realize what was



the height of my social and journalistic ambition." In fact his first job — briefly, until it folded — was with the *Westminster Gazette*. Then came Crawford's, the advertising agency, which he regarded as a prison. He escaped to Odhams' publicity department where, at the height of the *Daily Herald's* special offer mania, he had an appalling encyclopedia which *Herald* readers were told contained The Sum Total of All Human Knowledge round eminent academics for their endorsement. Only the Astronomer Royal had the gall to tell him that he and the *Herald* should be prosecuted for fraud.

"Thank God," Hopkinson characteristically told him, "you're the first one who's given a straight answer". Angered by unemployment and the Macdonald government's incompetence, Hopkinson produced a lampoon made up of excerpts from ministerial speeches. It was that which propelled him back into journalism, via the doomed *Clarion* to *Picture Post*.

Edward Hulton, a supporter of Neville Chamberlain, had started out with the idea of a penny Conservative paper and was confounded when, from the first issue produced by the mer-

curial Austrian editor Stefan Lorant, Hopkinson as his assistant, his anti-semitism, pro-Labour magazine had been a runaway success. And so it remained, setting a standard of incisive pictorial journalism that had never been seen in Britain before and now, in this age of instant television coverage, will never be seen again.

In 1950 Hopkinson sent James Cameron and Bert Hardy to cover the Korean war. The second story they sent covered the treatment by the South Koreans of their political prisoners. It was hard-hitting, but Hulton did not want the article used. Hopkinson resolutely took the line that while it was the proprietor's right to hire and fire the editor, so long as he was in the editor's chair he had the right to decide what went into the magazine. Moreover, he would not resign and if he was to go Hulton would have to dismiss him. Which is what happened.

Disastrously for Hopkinson, the *Daily Worker* alone had the story. As a result, among those who knew him least, for some years Hopkinson had an undeserved reputation as a fellow traveller. In fact, he is more a fine example of the decent Eng-



lish liberal, an editor who continued to employ the communist Bert Lloyd but who combed through East European magazines to find a picture of a humiliated American prisoner to counterbalance Hardy's pictures of South Korean atrocities.

After *Picture Post* he freelanced and spent two years as features editor of the *Nuus Chronicle*. Then came the invitation to go out to Johannesburg to edit *Drum*.

The African staff at *Drum*, where Hopkinson worked for three exhilarating and frustrating years, could, he says now, always be relied on in a crisis. But for a lot of the rest of the time they were drunk, or missing, or both. Like *Picture Post*, *Drum* had some great scoops, of which Ian Berry's compelling photographs of the Sharpeville shootings were the most notable.

At the emotional farewell given him by the talented but erratic African staff, Hopkinson said he wished he had been able to hand over to an African editor. It was his conviction of the need to promote African journalists and journalism that first led him into training, first in Nairobi and later at Cardiff.

For many years now he has

been a disciple of the Indian nationalist, Meher Baba, whom Dorothy took him to see in the 1950s. The book they both wrote about Baba, swept through his followers in the US and in India. All profits go to the Baba Foundation.

For the most part gentle and mild-mannered, Hopkinson also has a streak of toughness. When a series of articles he wrote for the *Rand Daily Mail* brought him into conflict with the South African government, a Nationalist politician went too far and said that Hopkinson was a bastard — or, to be precise, his father was a bastard. Hopkinson sued, doing so, he said, not so much on his own behalf but on that of his father, who happened to be the Archdeacon of Westmorland. He got his money.

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Donald Macintyre

The sparkling way to a brighter union image

Philip Sparks says he knows what makes trade unions so unpopular in Britain — it's that they do not advertise widely or soon enough. Sparks is director of public affairs for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the public sector union in the United States. AFSCME is spending \$2m this year on an advertising campaign which started four months before their major contract negotiations (which the simple British would probably call "pay talks") are due to begin.

Trade unions, says Sparks, have greater public acceptability than used-car salesmen and politicians, but probably not much. "Our strategy has to be to explain the major negotiating issues, and to hit the public hard with those before the bargainers ever sit down with the employers," he says.

Sparks was in Britain over the weekend to address the annual conference of the Public Relations Consultants Association, and was able to produce some devastating examples of what PR can do if it is turned against industry. A boycott he directed against the Duke Power Corporation sunk the value of its stock by a quarter, and incidentally produced an Oscar-winning documentary, *Hartan County USA*, as well as a satisfactory settlement.

In his campaign against the J P Stevens textile mill, Sparks used

the union's pension fund clout to get Stevens directors sacked from the boards of other companies. In a 12-day strike by miners over the national coal contract, Sparks helped direct publicity "which was a substantial part of our strategy in winning nearly nine-tenths of what we had originally offered, and the best coal contract ever."

Most recently, Sparks has produced a television documentary about a textile workers' dispute. "It was aired by 125 television stations in six months, and the threat of boycott just broke the management's will to resist."

The trouble with industrial relations in Britain, Sparks says, is not that the unions are too powerful, but that they leave it till the pickets are out to explain their case.

Family affair
If Robert Mellish, Labour MP for Bermondsey and former chief whip, is thrown out of the Labour Party it could be his nephew, Tom, who has to start the throwing. Mellish has been complained against for a letter urging voters to support independent, rather than Labour, candidates in Southwark's local elections.

It would be up to Mellish's own Catford ward to start disciplinary proceedings if they are decided upon, and the ward secretary there is Mellish's nephew, Tom.

Chew this over
It is a notorious truth that you cannot eat or drink anything without endangering your health

THE TIMES DIARY

A label guaranteeing that the cloth bearing it is made of pure Falkland Islands wool has proved popular in Italy, Japan and America, but had not caught on in Britain before the invasion.

Colin Smith of J. G. Field in Bradford, agent for 40 farms independent of the Falkland Island Company and himself a partner in a farm, devised the label and had large numbers printed. The only British retailer known to have used them is Austin Reed, for jackets made up of cloth woven in Scotland.

The reverse of the label describes Falkland wool, on which the islanders depend for their livelihood, as having "superb strength, resilience and remarkable softness".

and arts at the GLC, and several suggestions have been made as to where the pieces might go next. It is most likely that the standing figures will go to Battersea Park and the reclining ones to the grounds of Kenwood House, Hampstead. It would be appropriate to have a Moore at Kenwood, as an unknown artist in the 1930s he had his studio in Hampstead, and he drew people sheltering from the blitz on the platforms of Hampstead tube station.

Back to Leeds
A converted granary near the harbour at Wells-on-the-sea on the Norfolk coast, best known as the home of whelks, provided the venue for the start of a tour by the young German pianist Wolfgang Manz this weekend. His next stop is Leeds, where it is widely held, he was robbed last September in the piano competition. With four international awards already to his credit, Manz was placed only

second though our own critic, Hilary Finch, paid tribute to his "unsurpassed degree of imaginatively intelligent musicianship".

Saddled
A gift from the Pakistani head of state, General Zia ul-Haq, to his Turkish counterpart, General Kenen Evren, is very much alive and kicking after arrival in Ankara. Saqib, an imposing five-year-old stallion of impeccable British and Pakistani ancestry, has proved more than a match for the veteran riders of the presidential guard, who are trying to train him as an Olympic horse.

The bravest officer lasts in the saddle on Saqib's back for 15 seconds at most, and the Turkish press have been treated to a series of pictures of the rearing horse giving the cavaliers experience of aviation. The guards officers attribute Saqib's temper to his annoyance at being taken away from his previous career as a stud.

The five bulls and four cows which accompanied him to his new country are said to be perfectly content "improving the quality of Turkish livestock" at the various state farms to which they have been distributed.

Pettifoggery
Nearly half the administration costs of the EEC translation and interpretation. In 1979 the cost was about £214m. This year it will far exceed £250m. Understandably the Commission is backing a £8.5m research programme to produce a computer-based translation machine.

Trenchermen
A day or two after saying goodbye to the Pope, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, will be principal guest at the Food and Drink Industries Council luncheon at the Portico Tun room in Whitebread's City

brewery. The lunch is on June 3, the day after the Pope leaves Britain.

That Dr Runcie has accepted the invitation, it is told, is largely due to Sir Hector Laing, chairman of United Biscuits and a former chairman of the North Africa campaign of the last war.

One could say that many of Sir Hector's important connections are built upon sand. Earlier this year he lost his aeroplane to a Dennis Challenger for his trip to Tanganyika to see his son Mark, then in the Sahara.

Paying for playing
Have modern composers lost their touch? Genichi Kawakami, president of the Yamaha Music Foundation, fears they may have. He is offering cash prizes of up to £1,000 to composers who can perform their own music in public, as Mozart and Chopin did.

Kawakami's rules are not unduly restrictive. Composers can play on any instrument they wish, as long as they play a "significant part" in the performance. The winners of this competition will take part in a concert in Tokyo in December.

Quiz answers
1. Sales of Scotch whisky fell by a third last year.
2. The Queen, who is said by her family to put on a "pity face".
3. Peter Ustinov. It will be an attraction at this year's Edinburgh Festival.
4. The hang glider pilot, who is a Calvert.

Chronicle
From Miss Sir. Folio spence, the problem should be of what is feature in

should important. Eg. Sedat too through All Arab had excused taking the that Israel ruled out through minimum not that he al-Shaikh peace with Shaikh: even after visit to insist the treaty Is Sinai won to Israeli law? Israeli for indeed, ro one of the his own rael yestea settlemen abandoned made hi really b would b

the United Nations. The United Nations is a body of 119 member states, each with one vote. The Security Council has five permanent members (China, France, Great Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union) and ten non-permanent members. The General Assembly is the main deliberative body.

The United Nations was established in 1945 after the Second World War. Its purpose is to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations, to promote economic and social progress, and to uphold human rights.

The United Nations has a budget of \$2.2 billion for 1982. It is funded by contributions from member states. The United States is the largest contributor, followed by the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France, and China.

The United Nations has a secretariat of about 5,000 staff members. The Secretary-General is the chief administrative officer. The current Secretary-General is Javier Pérez de Cuellar of Peru.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.
(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in Issue for the stock quoted)

Interest

Division

Strike

Builders

Video trials

THE

BLU

LONDON EX

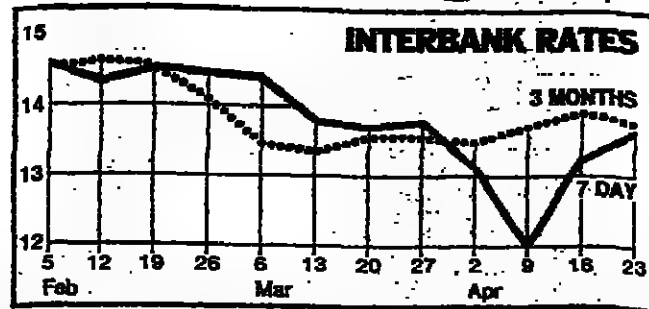
ECONOMIC

DIAR

OTHER EXC

BUSINESS NEWS

Interest rates gloom



Interest rates could rise sharply if the latest developments in the south Atlantic lead to a return to sterling. Without the Falklands shadow, interest rates would almost certainly have continued downward, providing a further cut in bank base rates. Ironically, there could be additional help for United Kingdom interest rates now from the United States after the better than expected money supply figures released last Friday.

Division over IMF role

Western industrial nations are seriously divided over the amount of financial muscle that the International Monetary Fund should be given to deficit nations. It emerged at a Pan's meeting of G7 senior officials. The United States called for the IMF to return to being a true lender of last resort. Other nations wanted an increase in quotas, in order to boost the funds lending capacity.

Strike over Redpath sale

Workers at Redpath Dorman Long, British Steel's structural engineering subsidiary, are to stage a one-day strike today in protest at the BSC's decision to sell the company for £10m to Trafalgar House. Senior management from RDP who are members of the Steel Industry Management Association and are working out an employee buy-out scheme, will be complaining to the Office of Fair Trading that the sale is against the public interest.

Builders see recovery signs

Britain's builders are noticing the first tentative signs of a modest recovery according to the National Federation of Building Trades Employers' annual report. The report says that the early months of 1982 have brought signs not only that the decline in national output was bottoming out, but also that interest rates were on a firm downward path.

Video trials

British Telecom today begins engineering trials of an international video conferencing service. BT will use the European, Orbital, Test stations to send video messages to the French and Italian telecommunications authorities. A full trial of the service with business customers is expected this year.

THE WEEK AHEAD
Blue Circle boost

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 567.1
FT 100 67.61
FT All Share 326.70
Bargains 16,415
Friday's close

Blue Circle shares have been a weak market in recent months but should pick up when the cement group reports a significant return in profits during 1981 with results due on Wednesday.

There should be a modest advance at Tarmac with tomorrow's final, but among the building contractors Geo. White, the largest group in the sector, is likely to reflect the depressed state of the construction industry with its figures on Thursday.

In the first half of 1981 Blue Circle saw United Kingdom profits fall by 19 per cent, despite a cement volume fall of 20 per cent, but overseas earnings climbed 154 per cent due to a particularly strong performance in Chile. With associates' profits up 49 per cent this produced a 75 per cent increase in pretax profits to £30.9m.

Lower volume sales of cement in the United Kingdom and a declining rate of price increases will continue to be offset by

growth overseas in the second half and the market is looking for profits for the full year of about £108m, a 37 per cent increase on the 1980's £78.6m.

On the forecast dividend of 25p per share gross, against 21.43p, the shares at 480p yield 5.4 per cent and stand at 10.9 times prospective fully-laxed earnings.

Growth should slow up in the current year, with lower price increases, further rationalization, and reduced volume in Chile suggesting a profits increase off about ten per cent in 1982.

Tarmac has produced plans for private financing of motorway construction, and has been involved in promoting a Channel tunnel, but this week's results are expected to show a slowing of the last two years' growth, with profits up from £44m to about £48m pretax, accompanied by a modest increase in distributions.

Thursday's first quarter results from ICI come exactly a week after Mr John Harvey-Jones's guard, Sir Kenneth Corfield, said 1982 had got off to a bad start. But despite the chairman's comments on the need for rationalization, the market will be expecting an increase from last year's first quarter figure of £52m.

Garth David

ECONOMIC VIEW

News of British military action in the South Atlantic yesterday could well hit the pound when financial markets open today, forcing the authorities to decide whether to use Britain's reserves on a big scale to support the currency or to jack up interest rates, with the damaging consequences that may have on industry.

With all eyes on the Falklands, economic news this week will inevitably be of secondary interest. Out today are figures for the fourth quarter of last year, which will reveal how much pension funds and others were investing overseas. On Tuesday come the April unemployment figures.

These could show a small fall from the March total of 2.99 million because of seasonal factors. Figures for strikes and total employment are published by the Department of Employment on Wednesday.

DIARY

Today: EEC finance ministers meeting, Brussels.
Tomorrow: "Think British" conference, Regent Crest Hotel, London.
Wednesday: British Rail annual report. Mr Norman Tabbutt, Employment Secretary, addresses Primrose League, Caxton Hall, London. Overseas travel and tourism figures (January/February).
Thursday: Energy trends figures.
Friday: Wales TUC conference opens. Llandudno. Car and commercial vehicle production figures (March).

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,333.94
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,235.84

Setback for nuclear power plans

By Michael Frost

New Central Electricity Generating Board forecasts of United Kingdom power demand to the end of the century are so low as to challenge the need for major additions to generating capacity over the next two decades. The figures are particularly damaging to the case for a large nuclear construction programme. The forecasts, which will be published next month, conclude that on the most optimistic assumptions for economic growth, electricity demand will expand by an average of 2 per cent a year. This is less than half the average increase during the 1970's.

At the opposite end of the CEB's range of five forecasts is the assumption of a static or shrinking economy, which would mean contraction in electricity demand. The midrange forecast that demand will go up by about 1 per cent a year is likely to be used by the Electricity Council's medium-term development plan. The plan is published annually in June and looks seven years ahead.

These projections of low demands come at a tricky time for the CEB, which is preparing evidence for the inquiry next January into the construction of the Sizewell B nuclear power station in Suffolk. Whatever the outcome of the inquiry, the new evidence is likely to shift some emphasis from how much capacity is needed to the merits of different kinds of power. The high construction costs of nuclear stations could count decisively.

Some nuclear plants would be needed to replace the Magnox reactors built during the 1950s. Britain generates about 11 per cent of its electricity by nuclear power, compared with about half in the United States, which has only started building nuclear power stations in earnest in 1973.

The problem during the 1950s is made worse by assumptions among CEB economists that growth of gross domestic product will accelerate during that decade.

Given that a power station takes about 10 years from conception to operation, the political debate over nuclear power must be settled in the next few years. But other calculations by the CEB in the light of low uranium prices have questioned the economic value of reprocessing nuclear fuel.

MPs favour Budget procedure reforms

By Our Economics Staff

The influential Treasury Select Committee of MPs is about to come down firmly in favour of publishing a draft Budget, containing proposals on both tax and public spending, in December each year. This radical reform of Budget procedure would enable MPs to discuss proposals before the Chancellor presented his final Budget to Parliament in the spring.

The Select Committee meets today to discuss its draft report on the subject, and the final version is likely to be published early in June. The report follows recommendations made two years ago by an independent committee chaired by the late Lord Armstrong under the aegis of the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

Criticism of the way in which Budget decisions are made and presented has been growing in recent years. These criticisms have focused chiefly on the secrecy surrounding Budget preparations and the separation

of decisions on taxation from those on government spending. Decisions on spending are taken first, in the autumn, after much haggling between Treasury and spending ministers. How the plans are to be financed is decided later, in the spring budget, traditionally by the Chancellor and the Prime Minister alone.

This prevents the plans being considered and adjusted together. Present procedures also deny MPs the opportunity to debate Budget proposals and the detail of spending plans until the final decisions have already been made.

The Treasury has made clear its opposition to the notion of a draft Budget, which it views as administratively impracticable and unnecessary. But members of the Select Committee are hopeful that their report will lay the foundation for eventual reform, even though this may take some years to come about.

Pioneers Co-operative in merger plan

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The Rochdale-based Pioneers Co-operative Society, promoters of the Co-op movement, will disappear after 138 years trading, under a merger plan.

The decision lies with the members of the Pioneers and the Stockport-based Co-op Society. Boards of both societies are recommending the merger which would create a £120m turnover society putting it among the top half dozen in the movement.

The historic link would not be completely severed: the new society would be called the Northwest Pioneers.

The planned merger is yet another commentary on the fortunes of about 170 cooperative retail societies. The movement has seen its market share depleted in recent years because of the rise in popularity of supermarkets.

Recession has also hit the Pioneers in the same way as it has many other societies. Though a marginal 1980 loss was followed by a slight profit in 1981, the turnover growth has since been restricted by problems at Oldham.

The Pioneers, which has two other new supermarkets, is seeking the merger path earlier than other faltering societies. Mr Rodney Aspray, Northwest's chief executive who would take over the running of the new society with the impending retirement of the Pioneers' chief executive, Mr Keith Smith, foresees development which a smaller society would have found hard to tackle.

Mr Raymond Pannock, "outstanding businessman,"

Talks with Gulf Oil at crucial stage
Kuwait set to buy European refineries

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Gulf Oil, one of the world's largest oil companies, is pressing ahead with negotiations to sell the bulk of its European refining and marketing business to Kuwait. The negotiations, which would involve the sale of at least 75 per cent of the company's European downstream oil activities to Kuwait's state oil corporation, are believed to be at a crucial stage, even though the two sides have still to agree on the issue of price.

The talks, which were publicly acknowledged earlier this year by Gulf after months of speculation, were called off at one stage.

The deal, which would probably be worth about

£1,000m, would be an important development in the history of the oil industry.

It would involve one of the world's leading oil companies pulling out of one of the main world markets in direct response to the chronic problem of refinery overcapacity, which has cost most oil companies millions of pounds in losses over the last two years.

It would also lead to a further step in the leading Middle East oil producers' attempt to extend their operations from production to supply and distribution.

Gulf has refining and marketing interests in several European countries, including Britain, Switzer-

land, Italy, The Netherlands and Denmark. Its share of the oil products market ranges from about 3 per cent in Britain to nearly 10 per cent in Denmark. The European industry as a whole is suffering from 40 per cent over capacity.

In its 1981 annual report, just published, Gulf discloses that it has already sold a third of its European assets since 1977, raising \$200 million (about £115m). Disposals include its operations in France, Spain, Norway, northern Sweden and north-eastern England.

The company says its refineries in Europe operated at 46 per cent of capacity last year, compared with 62 per

cent the year before. This years capacity is expected to be pared by more than 40 per cent, allowing it to raise its refinery utilization rate to about 80 per cent.

Mr James E. Lee, Gulf chairman, says that the company has decided to pursue two main strategies, including concentrating on building up its North American oil and gas reserves and cutting costs on its unprofitable downstream activities. It is not clear whether the group's British operations, which include a refinery at Milford Haven, in South Wales are included in the planned deal with the Kuwaitis, but the Kuwaitis would like to acquire them.

Top CBI advisors named

By Our Industrial Staff

Sir Raymond Pannock, president of the Confederation of British Industry, today published for the first time the full list of members of the organization's powerful coordinating body, the president's committee.

The 31-member committee, which includes Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of B.I., and Mr John Harvey-Jones, new chairman of ICI, is the result of two years' work by Sir Raymond to extend its range and influence. One of the committee's principal tasks is to advise the president on the implementation of CBI policies and prepare the way for meetings with government ministers.

Sir Raymond said one of his objectives as president had been to ensure that CBI representatives were of the highest calibre and the committee now comprised some of the most outstanding businessmen in the land.

The committee, which meets each month and occasionally in emergency session, was established in 1976 after the recommendations of the Partridge-Plowden report on the CBI's aims and organisation. Sir Raymond, who retired from the presidency last month, said the 1982 committee's work had been invaluable.

The committee is led by Sir Raymond, Sir Campbell Fraser, deputy president, and Sir Terence Beckett, the director general. It includes the chairman of other CBI committees: Sir John Read (finance and general purposes); Mr Ronnie Utiger (economic and financial policy); Mr Astley Whitall (employment policy); Sir Austin Pearce (industrial policy); Mr Derek Kingsbury (overseas); Mr John Raimson (Europe); Mr George Duncan (companies); Sir Richard Cave (unemployment steering group); and Mr Jeremy Pope (smaller firms).

The chairman of companies are: Sir Michael Pannock (B.I.); Sir Arnold Hall (Hawker Siddeley); Mr John Harvey-Jones (ICI); Mr Emmanuel Kaye (Lansing Bagnall); Sir Alex Jarratt (Reed International); Sir David Orr (Unilever); Mr Derek Beckett (B.I.); Sir Kenneth Corfield (STC); Lord Roberts (Johnson Matthey); Mr Peter Walters (BP); and Mr John Sainsbury (Sainsbury's).

Mr Pannock said the corporation's strategy for the

Second aluminium plant at risk

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Another British aluminium smelter, the 112,000 tonnes a year Anglesey Aluminium plant, will be in jeopardy if its United States owners are unable to negotiate a cheap power contract within the next few months.

Kaiser Aluminium and Chemical Corporation, the California-based group which has a two-thirds stake in the smelter, has given the clearest hint yet that it regards high electricity prices as the main threat to the plant's future.

"The power agreement for Anglesey, in Wales, if left alone, will trigger much higher power costs in the future and this must be resolved," Mr Steve Huchcraft, Kaiser's vice president and general manager in charge of aluminium, said in New York.

Closure of Anglesey Aluminium after British Aluminium's decision to shut its investigation smelter in the Scottish Highlands would wipe out two thirds of the country's aluminium producing capacity leaving only Alcan's 120,000 tonnes a year plant at Lynemouth in Northumberland.

Government ministers are aware that if Anglesey collapsed, Britain would once again become a net importer of aluminium which, because of its aerospace and defence equipment applications is regarded by many countries as a matter of strategic importance.

Mr Huchcraft said the corporation's strategy for the



Interior of the plant, threatened by high power costs.

Although closure is not an immediate prospect for Anglesey, Kaiser must now be considering a review of its holding in the company (the other third is held by Rio Tinto Zinc) if, as seems likely, an agreement to hold down power charges is not reached with the Central Electricity Generating Board.

Mr Huchcraft said the corporation's strategy for the

1980s was to develop an aluminium business that was more selective, more competitive and more profitable. "We also concluded that only those plants that show promise of being low-cost producers should be retained."

The three British smelters were built in the late 1950s as part of Mr Harold Wilson's (then Prime Minister) "white heat of technology" programme, and were given favourable terms on electricity costs that have ever since provoked controversy.

British Aluminium was to get cheap power in return for paying part of the construction costs of the Hunterston B nuclear power station in Scotland, while Anglesey's charges were to be based on the generation costs of the Dungeness B station in Kent.

But continuous delays in implementing Britain's nuclear programme which have resulted in increases in costs have thrown the aluminium companies' original calculations into disarray and have cost the generating boards dearly. The CEB has estimated that the original Anglesey contract has cost it more than £200m.

Talks between Kaiser and the CEB could begin in earnest in the next few weeks when Dungeness B finally starts to produce electricity — 10 years late and at a capital cost reckoned to be five times the original £90m estimate.

HAWKER SIDDELEY GROUP

1981 RESULTS

	1981 £m	1980 £m
Sales	1,395	1,205
Trading profit	127.5	110.8
Profit before tax	121.1	113.0
Profit after tax & minority interests	79.3	69.6
Earnings per ordinary share	40.1	35.2
Dividends per ordinary share		
First Interim	3.7p	3.0p
Recommended Final	5.6p	5.2p

The 1981 Report will be published in late May 1982, when copies will be available from the Secretary.

HAWKER SIDDELEY GROUP PLC
18 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LJ.

McKechnie Brothers

The improvement in our trading profit compared with the corresponding period last year was due mainly to an excellent first half from New Zealand and to better results from the U.K., with the exception of the Chemicals Division where trading conditions continue to be very difficult.

Good performances were also recorded by most of our associates overseas but the South African stock holding operations (in which we now have a reduced share) felt the effects of a levelling off in activity. We do not expect any rapid changes in the U.K. where we hope to maintain a slow advance sufficient to counteract any effects of a slackening of demand overseas.

Dr. J. M. Butler, Chairman

Interim Results - unaudited	Half-year ended 31st January	Year ended 31st July
	1982	1981
Sales	£'000	£'000
Operating Profit	73,510	60,353
Share of Profits of Associates	3,459	2,247
Net Profit	2,838	3,251
Extraordinary items	3,173	3,171
Ordinary Dividend	1,135	—
Earnings per Ordinary Share	995	991
	6.2p	6.3p

Notes: (i) Interim dividend of 2.00p (1981 2.00p) per Ordinary Share making a gross equivalent of 2.85714p (1981 2.85714p).

(ii) The appreciation on metal stocks not covered by sales contracts, and not taken into account in this Statement, amounts to £193,000 after taxation. Any adjustment required at 31st July, 1982 will be dealt with as usual by transfer to or from Stock Reserve.

(iii) Extraordinary items relate principally to a surplus arising on reorganisation of South African associates on 1st July, 1981.

McKechnie Brothers plc ALDRIDGE, WALSALL WS9 8DS

MARKETS ROUND-UP

Wall St rally as inflation falls

The stock market continued to rally last week, climbing to 362.16 to reach a 12-week high. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 18.74 points for the week, all these gains coming on Thursday and Friday.

Trading was touched off by the announcement on Friday morning that the consumer price index for March dropped 0.3 per cent, the first monthly decline since August 1981. When inflation drops, it is believed that interest rates will follow, making stocks a better investment than fixed income security.

The rally marked the sixth week in a row that the Dow had advanced, the first time since autumn 1972 that the market has risen in so many consecutive weeks. The market hit a 23-month low on March 8 when the Dow sank to 295.47.

The recovery has been led by energy stocks, strengthened by the firming of oil prices. Technology, drug and utility issues also gained. Most trading was done by large institutions. On Friday, advances outnumbered declines by 1,042 to 456 and 1,318 blocks of 10,000 or more shares were traded. This number of trades is topped only by those in January 1981, when Joseph Granville, a prominent market advisor, told his clients to sell.

Forecasts are that the rally will continue to the end of the summer.

JOHANNESBURG

Brewery guide

A guide to the fortunes of South African Breweries, is expected this week when two of its major subsidiaries, Amstel, the furniture, clothing and shoe retailer, and OK Bazaars, the country's biggest department store chain, published their results. Satisfactory increases in earnings are expected in both cases, even though South Africa's Economic Boom is over and some experts are predicting recession by 1983.

Thus the market is anticipating the SAB's overall results will be good, particularly in its beer division — there is a shortage of it in the Johannesburg area after a strike by brewery workers although Southern Sun, the hotel chain, is producing some problems.

Meanwhile, the market has been digesting the March quarter gold mine quarterlies which have contained the expected shocks, or worse in some cases. Gencor Mines showed a big drop in earnings and in the JCI Group, Western Areas revealed that its breakeven price is \$372. Randfontein, however, which some analysts feel has been underpriced, produced better than expected results. Anglo American's Orange Free State mines performed

as well as could be expected, the market believes, and among its Transvaal mines, Elandsrand looked quite good after moving into better grade areas. Anglovaal's Harties and ET Cons were hit by big earnings drops.

Another shock result was Anamint, with an interim dividend of 440 cents (630 cents) making a final of 700 cents (890).

HONGKONG

Sudden boost

The market broke its dull trading rising 53 points on higher turnover. The Hang Seng index closed at 1236 HK\$82m (about £24m) sharply up on Monday's very poor HK\$82m (£7.66m). The major boost was the speculation that property magnate Li Ka Shing has secured a US\$200m (about £12m) loan, first appearing in the market late on Tuesday, the reports prompted overnight buying in London.

Most brokers wonder what Li wants to do with the extra cash, when his quoted vehicle, Cheung Kong, already has HK\$2,000m (£186.91m) cash on book.

One theory is that this might mark the long awaited takeover of Hutchinson Whampoa, of which Cheung Kong already holds more than 40 per cent. Whatever the speculation the market was ripe for a

rally in the light of a stronger Wall Street.

MALAYSIA

Poll buoyancy

The Malaysian elections which returned some leading Chinese businessmen to victory, buoyed the Malaysian Holdings listed on the Singapore exchange, including Mui, Multi-purpose Holdings, Bandar Raya and Malaysian Resources.

The market finished the week with a close of 763.72, a marginal gain of only 0.52 on the previous day but a 20.03 gain on the previous week's closing figure.

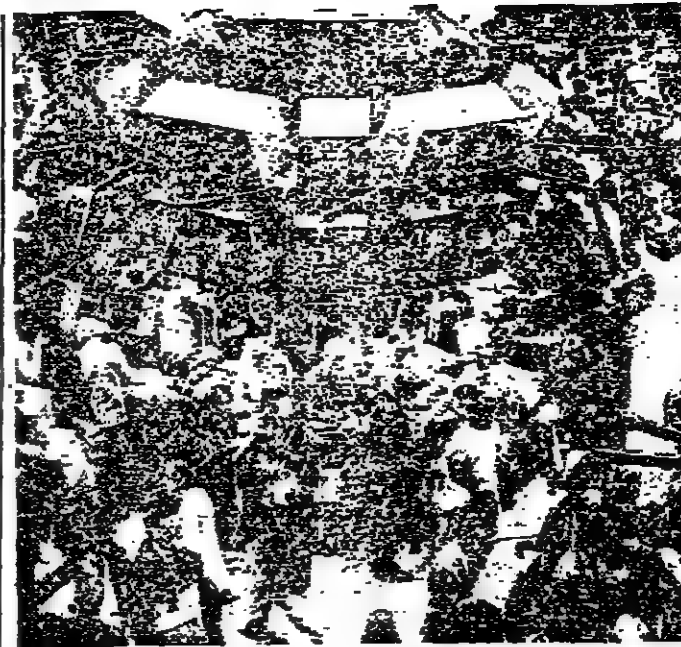
The announcement last week that on June 1, the controversial "immediate delivery trading rules," will be lifted was welcomed by all, especially foreign based brokers who now have enough time to effect foreign deliveries.

FRANKFURT

War-weary

West German stock markets have decided to shake off worries about war in the South Atlantic — for the time being at least.

The Commerzbank index posted a useful gain of around 10 points last week as investors drew encouragement from falling capital market interest rates and began to hope for signs of an



New York stock exchange: 12-week high

economic revival in Germany. Technical factors played a part in the upturn. Institutional selling the previous week on worries about the Falklands and the Middle East had reduced the amount of stock overhanging the market so that a revival of buying interest was rewarded with an upsurge of prices.

Higher oil prices helped the engineering and construction sectors which had been neglected in recent weeks on fears that lucrative Opec orders would soon be a thing of the past. The rally in gold prices also gave some support to Degussa, the German gold smelter, which had warned of a possible dividend cut this year.

Even though the Bundesbank decided to keep its special lombard rate at 9.5

per cent, stores, banks and motors — all of which can be expected to profit from lower interest rates — attracted buyers.

Argentine crude oil production fell 2.6 per cent in March to 15.11 million barrels compared with a year earlier. Production in the first quarter totalled 43.89 million barrels, compared with 45.05 million barrels in the same 1981 period.

Renault will lay off 3,500 workers at its car plant in Buenos Aires for the whole of next week. Volkswagens has sacked 900 workers and laid off another 1,200 while Ford will lay off 2,500 for five out of the next 15 days. These moves follow a further sharp drop in sales last month and this month.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Swiss broking action baffles gold market

Swiss banks and gold have always been synonymous. But the Swiss no longer dominate the gold market, not even the mystery-shrouded Russian gold business. While this has been a gradual process, the international gold trading community was amazed on Friday by a new Swiss move in the market which seemed to indicate that the Zurich banks have lost their way.

The three Zurich gold pool banks — Union Bank of Switzerland, Swiss Bank Corporation and Credit Suisse — are to set up a precious metals brokerage company with a registered office in Zurich.

"Unless they have some deeply hidden and clever plan that none of us can understand, we just cannot fathom what they are up to. How can a brokerage company help them to bring up all sorts of conflicts of interest between brokers and principals. In London the lines are clearly defined, whereas, here, customers are going to be wary of doing business if

Hongkong's expansion in the gold market started the pressure on the Swiss banks. That was followed by the growth of business in New York and the recovery of confidence in London (which had originally been lost in the quarrel with South Africa). The London gold futures market, which opened last week, may also stimulate more bullion trading in London.

Swiss banks have traditionally been "long" of gold. In the great crash, as gold came

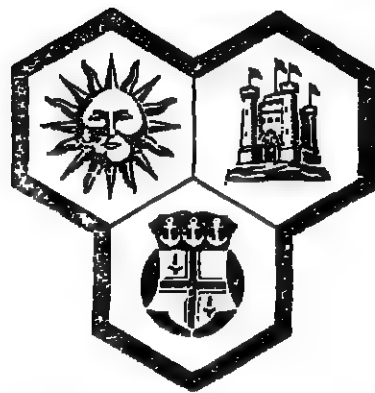
tumbling down from \$850, the banks and their customers lost a lot of money, as they were caught with large stocks and positions. Heads rolled, investment and trading strategies became very conservative, and the young traders left to go to the thriving new clear market. Zurich was no longer competitive.

What the Swiss need to do, sat dealers in the other centres, is appoint new top managers and given them greater freedom to trade and give advice. It is no good merely starting offices in the new centres — New York, Hong Kong and London are all areas in which the Swiss banks have opened for business. The criticism is that the staff are either not allowed to develop, or just do not have the flair to pull back lost business in Russia, the Middle East and South Africa.

Zurich believed its supremacy was damaged by a turnover tax on physical transactions — a Swiss specialisation in the bullion market — about two years ago. The Swiss authorities' decision to exempt central bank transactions, taken a few months ago, was seen as a sign of their growing concern at the loss of gold business.

Mr Hubert Baschnagel, Swiss Bank Corporation director, said the new brokerage firm, which will open later this summer, will be in a position to quote very narrow prices. But it will not be in the gold futures market.

Sally White

SUN ALLIANCE
INSURANCE GROUP

Comments by the Chairman - Lord Aldington

We have to report a large underwriting loss. Despite this our total profit before tax amounted to £70.9m compared with £69.3m in 1980 and, after tax and minority interests, net earnings were 84.8p per share compared with 83.6p per share in the previous year.

I referred last year to the deteriorating underwriting conditions in most parts of the world. Indeed, this deterioration has continued and in some places intensified. The buoyancy of investment income has been taken by some to be a proper compensation for underwriting losses. High interest rates consequent upon high and continuing inflation certainly go some way to meeting the higher cost of claims caused by the same inflation. But they do not go the whole way and in our opinion an insurance company like Sun Alliance & London must continue to set itself a target of an underwriting profit in normal times.

The truth is that it is not only the increased costs and prices consequent upon inflation or the reluctance of people to increase sums insured in line with inflation which have caused the underwriting losses. All over the world new risks are being underwritten at rates which allow nothing for the inevitable uncertainty of their eventual cost.

Furthermore, claims in many established classes of insurance are much higher than were expected and judicial awards of compensation for personal injury have grown enormously. In many countries the incidence of arson, criminal damage and burglary has increased greatly. In these circumstances it is madness for underwriters to compete with each other for business at inadequate rates of premium. Moreover, at times of recession as now, the amount of business on offer is not expanding and in some areas is decreasing. The excessive capacity in the market to which I have referred before presents responsible underwriters with a serious challenge: the maintenance of a share of the market cannot be secured without accepting too low rates of premium. But those who are seeking to increase their share of the market at such times by driving the rates of premium catastrophically downwards are, I believe, causing enormous damage to the market, the insuring public and, of course, themselves.

The continuing deterioration in the reinsurance market is a matter of great concern to the entire world-wide insurance community. Increasingly, the credibility of a growing part of the excessive reinsurance capacity is being questioned and there are serious doubts whether, in the event of a major catastrophe, some claims by ceding insurers upon reinsurers would be met.

Operations

Against this background our own results, although disappointing to us, might have been worse.

Much of our international business was unprofitable with considerable underwriting losses in Canada and the U.S.A. and, for the second year, disastrous losses in Australia. Reinsurance business also deteriorated markedly.

Against this, our home business improved, helped by the mild winter of 1980/1981 and also by releases from outstanding loss reserves in the liability classes relating to earlier years. Just before Christmas, however, this improvement largely disappeared when severe winter weather cost us some £4.4m in the U.K. alone.

The 1979 Marine and Aviation year now closed was unprofitable and the subsequent open years are not running as well as we should like. Nevertheless, our reserves in the Fund remain adequate and no transfer from Profit and Loss Account was needed.

Our Life Division has again produced a larger surplus. Their reorganisation and vigorous marketing has steadily improved their share of the market in recent years. In 1981 the unit-linked funds showed outstanding investment results.

Investment income in the general funds increased encouragingly from £81.5m to £101.1m, a rate of growth of 24% or, eliminating the effects of exchange movements, 18%.

In addition, there was a further increase in the general funds in the surplus of market over book values of our investments with a rise of £60m to £390m. This gain is not reflected in our Profit and Loss Account.

Dividend

The Directors have resolved to declare a total dividend of 43p per share — an increase of 30.3% over that paid for 1980. An interim dividend of 19.5p per share was paid in January last and the final dividend of 23.5p will be paid on 5th July next.

The increased dividend leaves some £20.6m to be retained in the business and our solvency margin at 92% provides a springboard for expansion when we see profitable opportunities.

During many of these last ten years dividend restraint has been in force but your Board has always been keenly conscious of the effect of inflation on the shareholders' income. Despite somewhat disappointing results we are pleased to be able, for the third successive year, to declare increased dividends that more than match the year's rate of inflation and thus restore to shareholders in real terms the dividend level paid in earlier years.

Outlook

Looking ahead, we do not expect that the excessive competition in insurance markets will be eliminated in the near future. Nor can we expect a sharp increase in world economic activity in 1982. The difficulties in the insurance market we have seen overseas in the past few years have already spread into the United Kingdom. We shall certainly continue to do our best to discourage severe rate cutting and we have taken steps to reduce escalating expenses by a major reorganisation of our home business started in the middle of 1981.

No one can be unmindful of the very bad weather which we had in January following that in December to which I have already referred. The claims on us from the January weather are proving considerably more costly than those in December, but as a result of the steps we have taken in the last few years to strengthen our Personal account we are in a much better position to face the year. Other steps we have taken at home and overseas will strengthen our defences against the difficult conditions throughout our market.

The problems which confront us and insurers generally are serious and sometimes daunting — a real test of management's nerve and skill.

Summary of Results

	1981 £m	1980 £m
Premium Income		
General Insurance	703.6	599.2
Long-term Insurance	173.3	143.3
	876.9	742.5
General Insurance Underwriting Result	(36.8)	(18.4)
Long-term Insurance Profits	6.1	5.4
Investment Income	101.1	81.5
Other Income	0.5	0.8
Profit before Taxation	70.9	69.3
Taxation	28.7	27.8
Profit after Taxation	42.2	41.5
Minority Interests	0.4	0.3
Profit attributable to Shareholders	41.8	41.2
Dividend	21.2	16.3
Profit Retained	20.6	24.9
Earnings per Share	84.8p	83.6p
Dividend per Share	43.0p	33.0p

The Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance and London Insurance plc will be held on 26th May, 1982 at the Head Office, Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AB.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr Anthony Metherell has been appointed chairman of James Walker, Goldsmith & Silversmith. Due to ill health Mr Gerald Sanders has retired as chairman but remains a director.

The new production director of Horsell Graphic Industries is Mr Christopher Phillips.

Mr John Egan has been appointed as non-executive director of JCB Sales. Mr Egan is chairman and chief executive of Jaguar Cars.

Mr Leslie Randall is appointed general manager of Usher-Walker and has been elected to the board.

Mr Sidney Marks has been elected life president of M.Y. Dart. Mr Paul Marks has been appointed chairman in place of Mr Marks, who will remain a non-executive director of the company.

Brostrom Cargo (UK) has Mr Ron Corderoy deputy managing director. He continues as administration manager of the Brostrom (UK) group of companies including Brostrom Cargo (UK), Neptun and Travel Lloyd.

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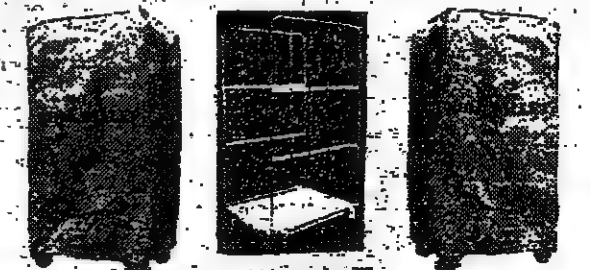
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BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

INTERNATIONAL



How a'Court caught the City on the hop

ARGENTINA
The New York Federal Reserve's supply of \$100 notes to banks has doubled, mostly for transport to Argentina. Peso deposits in Argentine banks have fallen about 5 per cent since the country seized the Falkland Islands and these would normally be exchanged for dollars by depositors. But the Government banned sales of foreign currency and gold on the day the Falklands were taken.

A Fed spokesman said levels of supply to banks in the New York area are not much higher than at other times of international tension.

UNITED STATES
The current oil glut should not be a cause for concern, says Mr Dennis O'Brien, deputy assistant secretary for international affairs at the energy department, said.

The aluminum industry, appears on the verge of seeking union help in trimming its costs. "I would suppose the companies are laying the cards on the table, and the unions know that the industry is in a terrible shape," industry analyst Mr George Cleaver of Merrill Lynch Company in New York said.

JAPAN
Toray Industries is to produce and market polyethylene terephthalate (PET) under a joint agreement with Societe Nationale Elf Aquitaine. The concern will be 35 per cent owned by Toray and 65 per cent by the French partner.

NORWAY
Norway has decided to open six new blocks off its northern shores for oil exploration.

It is never easy for a financial community whose rules of behaviour are based on years of experience to accept that an outsider has surprised them with a new way of making a takeover bid.

But Australian lawyer Robert Holmes a'Court's "two-tier takeover", which has effectively won control of Associated Communications Corporation, has caught the City unawares. And the feeling is that it will never be allowed to happen again.

His double-decker offer is a simple idea. The tempting top deck is pitched at a sufficiently high price to scare off any rivals, but with it go conditions rarely met in any takeover battle. If the number of acceptances fall short of these conditions within a specified time, then shareholders are left holding the less attractive lower deck, which because counter-bidders had been scared off is the price they would be likely to receive for their shares.

Few are carping about the precise terms of Mr Holmes a'Court's offer. He is likely to pay the higher 110p a share price rather than the 95p offered on the lower tier. But that may be because the takeover panel insisted that a fortnight's notice be given before the 110p offer was closed and because of the high number of professional investors holding ACC shares

Philip Robinson examines the controversial "two-tier" bid for Associated Communications Corporation and predicts that it is unlikely to be allowed to happen again.

who understand the complexities of offer documents. What is exercising the minds of the merchant bankers — who earn their fees thinking up bright new ideas on how to attack and defend in bid battles — is the potential danger of the two-tier offer.

Their objections stem from the premise that the City code on takeovers and mergers is being broken in spirit. It was set up 14 years ago to stop preferential treatment for shareholders to bring order to bids, and to make as simple as possible the decision whether to accept or reject a bid.

But the crucial point of any two-tier offer is at what point the higher price ceases to be available. Had the panel not imposed the need for 14 days' notice of it being withdrawn in the ACC battle, Mr Holmes a'Court could have ended up paying 95p a share.

days after the posting of the offer document. It is extremely rare for the 90 per cent to be attained in that time. Professional investors are renowned for waiting almost to the last minute before they accept.

Had the 14-day rule not been there, Mr Holmes a'Court could have stated that the conditions for the higher offer had not been met and, with the more than 50 per cent of acceptances which he had at that time, declared himself the new owner at the 95p level.

In approving the two-tier bid the panel, which first defined the higher price as being in the same class as a cash alternative, later changed its mind and viewed it as an "alternative offer". This appears to be another precedent.

The two-tier bid also does not seem to bear examination when rule 35 of the code is applied. That says that when an offer fails to become unconditional in all respects within the offer period or is withdrawn, no further bid or share-buying shall be made within 12 months of the final closing date.



Going a' courting: How Robert Holmes a'Court wooed ACC shareholders

mind whether he got all the shares, or just enough to win control. He could have achieved that with one simple offer, even stripping out the added complication of ACC's two classes of shares.

Instead, with panel approval, he chose a two-tier offer which worked as a shut-out bid, which the panel and the City's ultimate

watchdog, the Council for Securities Industry worked hard to erase last year. At that time the panel and CSI were attempting to stop quick-fire bids, by preventing a predator being able to buy large blocks of shares through the Stock Market and gain control of the target company before it had time to respond.

WEEKLY LIST OF FIXED-INTEREST STOCKS											
Latest price		Yield		Latest price		Yield		Latest price		Yield	
Admiral 7 1/2% Deb	67	6.0%	1.00	Debenhams 4 1/2% Deb	100	4.5%	4.50	Debenhams 5 1/2% Deb	100	5.5%	5.50
Admiral 8 1/2% Deb	68	6.5%	1.00	Debenhams 6 1/2% Deb	100	6.5%	6.50	Debenhams 7 1/2% Deb	100	7.5%	7.50
Admiral 9 1/2% Deb	69	7.0%	1.00	Debenhams 8 1/2% Deb	100	8.5%	8.50	Debenhams 9 1/2% Deb	100	9.5%	9.50
Admiral 10 1/2% Deb	70	7.5%	1.00	Debenhams 10 1/2% Deb	100	10.5%	10.50	Debenhams 11 1/2% Deb	100	11.5%	11.50
Admiral 11 1/2% Deb	71	8.0%	1.00	Debenhams 12 1/2% Deb	100	12.5%	12.50	Debenhams 13 1/2% Deb	100	13.5%	13.50
Admiral 12 1/2% Deb	72	8.5%	1.00	Debenhams 14 1/2% Deb	100	14.5%	14.50	Debenhams 15 1/2% Deb	100	15.5%	15.50
Admiral 13 1/2% Deb	73	9.0%	1.00	Debenhams 16 1/2% Deb	100	16.5%	16.50	Debenhams 17 1/2% Deb	100	17.5%	17.50
Admiral 14 1/2% Deb	74	9.5%	1.00	Debenhams 18 1/2% Deb	100	18.5%	18.50	Debenhams 19 1/2% Deb	100	19.5%	19.50
Admiral 15 1/2% Deb	75	10.0%	1.00	Debenhams 20 1/2% Deb	100	20.5%	20.50	Debenhams 21 1/2% Deb	100	21.5%	21.50
Admiral 16 1/2% Deb	76	10.5%	1.00	Debenhams 22 1/2% Deb	100	22.5%	22.50	Debenhams 23 1/2% Deb	100	23.5%	23.50
Admiral 17 1/2% Deb	77	11.0%	1.00	Debenhams 24 1/2% Deb	100	24.5%	24.50	Debenhams 25 1/2% Deb	100	25.5%	25.50
Admiral 18 1/2% Deb	78	11.5%	1.00	Debenhams 26 1/2% Deb	100	26.5%	26.50	Debenhams 27 1/2% Deb	100	27.5%	27.50
Admiral 19 1/2% Deb	79	12.0%	1.00	Debenhams 28 1/2% Deb	100	28.5%	28.50	Debenhams 29 1/2% Deb	100	29.5%	29.50
Admiral 20 1/2% Deb	80	12.5%	1.00	Debenhams 30 1/2% Deb	100	30.5%	30.50	Debenhams 31 1/2% Deb	100	31.5%	31.50
Admiral 21 1/2% Deb	81	13.0%	1.00	Debenhams 32 1/2% Deb	100	32.5%	32.50	Debenhams 33 1/2% Deb	100	33.5%	33.50
Admiral 22 1/2% Deb	82	13.5%	1.00	Debenhams 34 1/2% Deb	100	34.5%	34.50	Debenhams 35 1/2% Deb	100	35.5%	35.50
Admiral 23 1/2% Deb	83	14.0%	1.00	Debenhams 36 1/2% Deb	100	36.5%	36.50	Debenhams 37 1/2% Deb	100	37.5%	37.50
Admiral 24 1/2% Deb	84	14.5%	1.00	Debenhams 38 1/2% Deb	100	38.5%	38.50	Debenhams 39 1/2% Deb	100	39.5%	39.50
Admiral 25 1/2% Deb	85	15.0%	1.00	Debenhams 40 1/2% Deb	100	40.5%	40.50	Debenhams 41 1/2% Deb	100	41.5%	41.50
Admiral 26 1/2% Deb	86	15.5%	1.00	Debenhams 42 1/2% Deb	100	42.5%	42.50	Debenhams 43 1/2% Deb	100	43.5%	43.50
Admiral 27 1/2% Deb	87	16.0%	1.00	Debenhams 44 1/2% Deb	100	44.5%	44.50	Debenhams 45 1/2% Deb	100	45.5%	45.50
Admiral 28 1/2% Deb	88	16.5%	1.00	Debenhams 46 1/2% Deb	100	46.5%	46.50	Debenhams 47 1/2% Deb	100	47.5%	47.50
Admiral 29 1/2% Deb	89	17.0%	1.00	Debenhams 48 1/2% Deb	100	48.5%	48.50	Debenhams 49 1/2% Deb	100	49.5%	49.50
Admiral 30 1/2% Deb	90	17.5%	1.00	Debenhams 50 1/2% Deb	100	50.5%	50.50	Debenhams 51 1/2% Deb	100	51.5%	51.50
Admiral 31 1/2% Deb	91	18.0%	1.00	Debenhams 52 1/2% Deb	100	52.5%	52.50	Debenhams 53 1/2% Deb	100	53.5%	53.50
Admiral 32 1/2% Deb	92	18.5%	1.00	Debenhams 54 1/2% Deb	100	54.5%	54.50	Debenhams 55 1/2% Deb	100	55.5%	55.50
Admiral 33 1/2% Deb	93	19.0%	1.00	Debenhams 56 1/2% Deb	100	56.5%	56.50	Debenhams 57 1/2% Deb	100	57.5%	57.50
Admiral 34 1/2% Deb	94	19.5%	1.00	Debenhams 58 1/2% Deb	100	58.5%	58.50	Debenhams 59 1/2% Deb	100	59.5%	59.50
Admiral 35 1/2% Deb	95	20.0%	1.00	Debenhams 60 1/2% Deb	100	60.5%	60.50	Debenhams 61 1/2% Deb	100	61.5%	61.50
Admiral 36 1/2% Deb	96	20.5%	1.00	Debenhams 62 1/2% Deb	100	62.5%	62.50	Debenhams 63 1/2% Deb	100	63.5%	63.50
Admiral 37 1/2% Deb	97	21.0%	1.00	Debenhams 64 1/2% Deb	100	64.5%	64.50	Debenhams 65 1/2% Deb	100	65.5%	65.50
Admiral 38 1/2% Deb	98	21.5%	1.00	Debenhams 66 1/2% Deb	100	66.5%	66.50	Debenhams 67 1/2% Deb	100	67.5%	67.50
Admiral 39 1/2% Deb	99	22.0%	1.00	Debenhams 68 1/2% Deb	100	68.5%	68.50	Debenhams 69 1/2% Deb	100	69.5%	69.50
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Admiral 43 1/2% Deb	103	24.0%	1.00	Debenhams 76 1/2% Deb	100	76.5%	76.50	Debenhams 77 1/2% Deb	100	77.5%	77.50
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Admiral 47 1/2% Deb	107	26.0%	1.00	Debenhams 84 1/2% Deb	100	84.5%	84.50	Debenhams 85 1/2% Deb	100	85.5%	85.50
Admiral 48 1/2% Deb	108	26.5%	1.00	Debenhams 86 1/2% Deb	100	86.5%	86.50	Debenhams 87 1/2% Deb	100	87.5%	87.50
Admiral 49 1/2% Deb	109	27.0%	1.00	Debenhams 88 1/2% Deb	100	88.5%	88.50	Debenhams 89 1/2% Deb	100	89.5%	89.50
Admiral 50 1/2% Deb	110	27.5%	1.00	Debenhams 90 1/2% Deb	100	90.5%	90.50	Debenhams 91 1/2% Deb	100	91.5%	91.50
Admiral 51 1/2% Deb	111	28.0%	1.00	Debenhams 92 1/2% Deb	100	92.5%	92.50	Debenhams 93 1/2% Deb	100	93.5%	93.50
Admiral 52 1/2% Deb	112	28.5%	1.00	Debenhams 94 1/2% Deb	100	94.5%	94.50	Debenhams 95 1/2% Deb	100	95.5%	95.50
Admiral 53 1/2% Deb	113	29.0%	1.00	Debenhams 96 1/2% Deb	100	96.5%	96.50	Debenhams 97 1/2% Deb	100	97.5%	97.50
Admiral 54 1/2% Deb	114	29.5%	1.00	Debenhams 98 1/2% Deb	100	98.5%	98.50	Debenhams 99 1/2% Deb	100	99.5%	99.50
Admiral 55 1/2% Deb	115	30.0%	1.00	Debenhams 100 1/2% Deb	100	100.5%	100.50	Debenhams 101 1/2% Deb	100	101.5%	101.50
Admiral 56 1/2% Deb	116	30.5%	1.00	Debenhams 102 1/2% Deb	100	102.5%	102.50	Debenhams 103 1/2% Deb	100	103.5%	103.50
Admiral 57 1/2% Deb	117	31.0%	1.00	Debenhams 104 1/2% Deb	100	104.5%	104.50	Debenhams 105 1/2% Deb	100	105.5%	105.50
Admiral 58 1/2% Deb	118	31.5%	1.00	Debenhams 106 1/2% Deb	100	106.5%	106.50	Debenhams 107 1/2% Deb	100	107.5%	107.50
Admiral 59 1/2% Deb	119	32.0%	1.00	Debenhams 108 1/2% Deb	100	108.5%	108.50	Debenhams 109 1/2% Deb	100	109.5%	109.50
Admiral 60 1/2% Deb	120	32.5%	1.00	Debenhams 110 1/2% Deb	100	110.5%	110.50	Debenhams 111 1/2% Deb	100	111.5%	111.50
Admiral 61 1/2% Deb	121	33.0%	1.00	Debenhams 112 1/2% Deb	100	112.5%	112.50	Debenhams 113 1/2% Deb	100	113.5%	113.50
Admiral 62 1/2% Deb	122	33.5%	1.00	Debenhams 114 1/2% Deb	100	114.5%	114.50	Debenhams 115 1/2% Deb	100	115.5%	115.50
Admiral 63 1/2% Deb	123	34.0%	1.00	Debenhams 116 1/2% Deb	100	116.5%	116.50	Debenhams 117 1/2% Deb	100	117.5%	117.50
Admiral 64 1/2% Deb	124	34.5%	1.00	Debenhams 118 1/2% Deb	100	118.5%	118.50	Debenhams 119 1/2% Deb	100	119.5%	119.50
Admiral 65 1/2% Deb	125	35.0%	1.00	Debenhams 120 1/2% Deb	100	120.5%	120.50	Debenhams 121 1/2% Deb	100	121.5%	121.50
Admiral 66 1/2% Deb	126	35.5%	1.00	Debenhams 122 1/2% Deb	100	122.5%	122.50	Debenhams 123 1/2% Deb	100	123.5%	123.50
Admiral 67 1/2% Deb	127	36.0%	1.00	Debenhams 124 1/2% Deb	100	124.5%	124.50	Debenhams 125 1/2% Deb	100	125.5%	125.50
Admiral 68 1/2% Deb	128	36.5%	1.00	Debenhams 126 1/2% Deb	100	126.5%	126.50	Debenhams 127 1/2% Deb	100	127.5%	127.50
Admiral 69 1/2% Deb	129	37.0%	1.00	Debenhams 128 1/2% Deb	100	128.5%	128.50	Debenhams 129 1/2% Deb	100	129.5%	129.50
Admiral 70 1/2% Deb	130	37.5%	1.00	Debenhams 130 1/2% Deb	100	130.5%	130.50	Debenhams 131 1/2% Deb	100	131.5%	131.50
Admiral 71 1/2% Deb	131	38.0%	1.00	Debenhams 132 1/2% Deb	100	132.5%	132.50	Debenhams 133 1/2% Deb	100	133.5%	133.50
Admiral 72 1/2% Deb	132	38.5%	1.00	Debenhams 134 1/2% Deb	100	134.5%	134.50	Debenhams 135 1/2% Deb	100	135.5%	135.50
Admiral 73 1/2% Deb	133	39.0%	1.00	Debenhams 136 1/2% Deb	100	136.5%	136.50	Debenhams 137 1/2% Deb	100	137.5%	137.50
Admiral 74 1/2% Deb	134	39.5%	1.00	Debenhams 138 1/2% Deb	100	138.5%	138.50	Debenhams 139 1/2% Deb	100	139.5%	139.50
Admiral 75 1/2% Deb	135	40.0%	1.00	Debenhams 140 1/2% Deb	100	140.5%	140.50	Debenhams 141 1/2% Deb	100	141.5%	141.50
Admiral 76 1/2% Deb	136	40.5%	1.00	Debenhams 142 1/2% Deb	100	142.5%	142.50	Debenhams 143 1/2% Deb	100	143.5%	143.50
Admiral 77 1/2% Deb	137	41.0%	1.00	Debenhams 144 1/2% Deb	100	144.5%	144.50	Debenhams 145 1/2% Deb	100	145.5%	145.50
Admiral 78 1/2% Deb	138	41.5%	1.00	Debenhams 146 1/2% Deb	100	146.5%	146.50	Debenhams 147 1/2% Deb	100	147.5%	147.50
Admiral 79 1/2% Deb	139	42.0%	1.00	Debenhams 148 1/2% Deb	100	148.5%	148.50	Debenhams 149 1/2% Deb	100	149.5%	149.50
Admiral 80 1/2% Deb	140	42.5%	1.00	Debenhams 150 1/2% Deb	100	150.5%	150.50	Debenhams 151 1/2% Deb	100	151.5%	151.50
Admiral 81 1/2% Deb	141	43.0%	1.00	Debenhams 152 1/2% Deb	100	152.5%	152.50	Debenhams 153 1/2% Deb	100	153.5%	153.50
Admiral 82 1/2% Deb	142	43.5%	1.00	Debenhams 154 1/2% Deb	100	154.5%	154.50	Debenhams 155 1/2% Deb	100	155.5%	155.50
Admiral 83 1/2% Deb	143	44.0%	1.00	Debenhams 156 1/2% Deb	100	156.5%	156.50	Debenhams 157 1/2% Deb	100	157.5%	157.50
Admiral 84 1/2% Deb	144	44.5%	1.00	Debenhams 158 1/2% Deb	100	158.5%	158.50	Debenhams 159 1/2% Deb	100	159.5%	159.50
Admiral 85 1/2% Deb	145	45.0%	1.00	Debenhams 160 1/2% Deb	100	160.5%	160.50	Debenhams 161 1/2% Deb	100	161.5%	161.50
Admiral 86 1/2% Deb	146	45.5%	1.00	Debenhams 162 1/2% Deb	100	162.5%	162.50	Debenhams 163 1/2% Deb	100	163.5%	163.50
Admiral 87 1/2% Deb	147	46.0%	1.00	Debenhams 164 1/2% Deb	100	164.5%	164.50	Debenhams 165 1/2% Deb	100	165.5%	165.50
Admiral 88 1/2% Deb	148	46.5%	1.00	Debenhams 166 1/2% Deb	100	166.5%	166.50	Debenhams 167 1/2% Deb	100	167.5%	167.50
Admiral 89 1/2% Deb	149	47.0%	1.00	Debenhams 168 1/2% Deb	100	168.5%	168.50	Debenhams 169 1/2% Deb	100	169.5%	169.50
Admiral 90 1/2% Deb	150	47.5%	1.00	Debenhams 170 1/2% Deb	100	170.5%	170.50	Debenhams 171 1/2% Deb	100	171.5%	171.50
Admiral 91 1/2% Deb	151	48.0%	1.00	Debenhams 172 1/2% Deb	100	172.5%	172.50	Debenhams 173 1/2% Deb	100	173.5%	173.50
Admiral 92 1/2% Deb	152	48.5%	1.00	Debenhams 174 1/2% Deb	100	174.5%	174.50	Debenhams 175 1/2% Deb	100	175.5%	175.50
Admiral 93 1/2% Deb	153	49.0%	1.00	Debenhams 176 1/2% Deb	100	176.5%	176.50	Debenhams 177 1/2% Deb	100	177.5%	177.50
Admiral 94 1/2% Deb	154	49.5%	1.00	Debenhams 178 1/2% Deb	100	178.5%	178.50	Debenhams 179 1/2% Deb	100	179.5%	179.50
Admiral 95 1/2% Deb	155	50.0%	1.00	Debenhams 180 1/2% Deb	100	180.5%	180.50	Debenhams 181 1/2% Deb	100	181.5%	181.50
Admiral 96 1/2% Deb	156	50.5%	1.00	Debenhams 182 1/2% Deb	100	182.5%	182.50	De			

Boycott forgotten as Ferraris shine in two-car duel

From John Blunsden, Imola, Italy, April 25

It only took two cars to make a motor race. This was the message which Ferrari driver Didier Pironi and Gilles Villeneuve, delivered to the 56th minimum weight rule.

But for a Ferrari driver in front of his home crowd, too much was at stake to let go lightly.

Pironi carved his way past his team partner at the last realistic corner for overtaking. There was insufficient track remaining for Villeneuve to deliver his reply.

The crowd loved it. It was only far that they should be able to cheer an Italian victory, for in terms of a 96-minute motor racing spectacle they had been badly short-changed. In the end they had a lot to be happy about.

Ferrari first and second; an Italian driver third; another Italian car (Jean-Pierre Jarier's Osella) fourth; and another Italian driver, Teo Fabi, seventh.

At last in his Toleman behind the ATS-Ford of Eliseo Salazar and Manfred Winkelhock. The last three all had to make pit stops along the way.

It was Arnoux's Renault, which started in pole position, which set the early pace. It held a narrow lead over the two Ferraris until lap 27 when Villeneuve squeezed by. But four laps later, Arnoux regained the lead and remained there until his tanking engine oil ignited spectacularly. His team colleague, Alain Prost, currently the pro-

visional leader before he retired at the pits with engine trouble.

There was a wretched luck for the two British drivers in the race. Derek Warwick's Toleman retiring on the warm-up with an elusive electrical failure, later traced to a faulty battery, and Brian Henton's Tyrrell broke its transmission as it left the starting line.

However, the ability of Alboreto, Tyrrell's team leader, to keep well within one second each lap of the leaders for much of the race underlined again both his own growing stature and the improving calibre of his car.

It was a pity that much of the good will this team had attracted by coming to Imola, to please their Italian sponsor and the crowd, was dissipated overnight by a furious protest by Ken Tyrrell against all the turbo-charged cars including the British Tolemans. He argued that they were in breach of the regulations which only permit mechanically driven superchargers, not exhaust-driven turbo-chargers. As turbo-chargers have been raced for several seasons, it was no surprise that the protest was rejected.

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Williams; 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 840. 841. 842. 843. 844. 845. 846. 847. 848. 849. 850. 851. 852. 853. 854. 855. 856. 857. 858. 859. 860. 861. 862. 863. 864. 865. 866. 867. 868. 869. 870. 871. 872. 873. 874. 875. 876. 877. 878. 879. 880. 881. 882. 883. 884. 885. 886. 887. 888. 889. 890. 891. 892. 893. 894. 895. 896. 897. 898. 899. 900. 901. 902. 903. 904. 905. 906. 907. 908. 909. 910. 911. 912. 913. 914. 915. 916. 917. 918. 919. 920. 921. 922. 923. 924. 925. 926. 927. 928. 929. 930. 931. 932. 933. 934. 935. 936. 937. 938. 939. 940. 941. 942. 943. 944. 945. 946. 947. 948. 949. 950. 951. 952. 953. 954. 955. 956. 957. 958. 959. 960. 961. 962. 963. 964. 965. 966. 967. 968. 969. 970. 971. 972. 973. 974. 975. 976. 977. 978. 979. 980. 981. 982. 983. 984. 985. 986. 987. 988. 989. 990. 991. 992. 993. 994. 995. 996. 997. 998. 999. 1000.

Pironi in a Ferrari leads a depleted field to win the San Marino Grand Prix

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JUDO: WORLD CHAMPION IN FORM

ROUND-UP

Weekend's results

Adams keeps hold of title with little effort



Adams: champion with a knack for throwing his weight around

Neil Adams, 23, Britain's world champion, gave another impressive performance at Crystal Palace on Saturday, beating six challengers and two from the home countries to retain the 78 kg title at the British open championships.

Adams, from Addington, Surrey, was watched by his hand-picked Olympic swimmers Sharon Davies and wasted little energy in cruising to his final, disposed of Israel's Gabriel Leopold, in eight records and Warren Schaffeld, from Manchester, was dispatched in 45 seconds, both with clean, incisive throws.

Paul Prentice, of Brighton, lasted 50 seconds and then came Adams' most difficult fight of the night. He needed all his guile and stamina to achieve the verdict over Holland's Ben Spylkes. The procession continued with another Dutch challenger, Tohen of Norway, and Delscorps, of Belgium, to reach the final. The final, against West Germany's Eckhart Fegeert, lasted one minute and three seconds.

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BOXING: WEIGHT WATCHING IN JOHANNESBURG, WORTH WATCHING IN NEW YORK

Moore's battle with the scales

Johannesburg, April 25. — Darryl Moore, the World Boxing Association champion, faced another weight battle before his postponed light-middleweight title bout against Charlie Weir of South Africa takes place here tomorrow.

Moore, from New York, tipped the scales at 70.1kg at yesterday's weigh-in only hours before the bout was cancelled because of persistent rain at the open air Ellis Park stadium. The light-middleweight limit is 69.85kg.

After taking a sauna and exercising feverishly for an hour, Moore returned to the weigh-in, and edged in at 70.0kg, just below the limit. Weir had earlier scaled 68.7kg.

Moore must now watch his weight until the second weigh-in before tomorrow's rescheduled bout, which is widely predicted to end in a knock-out.

Win for Boza-Edwards

Ugandan Cornelius Boza-Edwards beat John "The Heat" Verdesa of New York on Saturday when the referee signalled a 10-second count after Boza-Edwards had won the third round.

Boza-Edwards, who lives in London, defeated Verdesa in the third round. It was Verdesa's first loss after 22 victories, 16 of them by knock-out. Boza-Edwards' record is now 30 wins and two losses.

The victory was Boza-Edwards' fourth since losing his World Boxing Council title to Rolando Navarrete last year.

The Ugandan rocked Verdesa with a solid left in the second round, and caught him in the third with several right-left combinations, sending him sprawling into the ropes for a count of eight.

Boza-Edwards followed up with a devastating left and some more combinations that put the American down again. The referee signalled a 10-second count after 39 seconds of the third round.

Top of the world

Carl Furber, from Harlow, set a new world record of 105.24 points in the 10m platform event at the World Trampoline Championships on Saturday. Furber, the British and European trampolinist champion, is favourite for the individual gold medal at the world championships next month.

At the 10m platform event, Furber scored 105.24 points, ahead of the Soviet Union's 104.22, N. Radtsig (104.22), and the American 103.22, J. S. S. (103.22). The Soviet Union's 104.22, N. Radtsig (104.22), and the American 103.22, J. S. S. (103.22).

ATHLETICS

Ford inspires Aldershot

Tipton Harriers lost their AAA National 12-stage road relay title at Sutton Coldfield on Saturday but by the remarkably small margin of 10 seconds, writes Norman Fox. Aldershot, Farnham and District for whom Brian Ford was an inspiration won in 4 hours 3 minutes 1 second.

Ford gave Aldershot the lead on the seventh leg, but the outstanding individual performance came from David Moor, who broke the long stage (5 miles 900 yds) record. His time of 24 minutes 27 seconds beat Brendan Foster's record by a second and suggested a successful track season ahead.

CYCLING

Final flourish from Williams

By John Wilcockson

In desperation, with 30 miles remaining, Williams attacked on his own, gaining 25 seconds by the summit of the cat and dog finish in Manchester on Saturday. He was forced to make a dogged defence of his yellow jersey on the final stage from Eilat, Williams and Malcolm Elliott of Great Britain attacked on the snake pass, 18 miles into the stage, and the only riders able to respond were Zbigniew Szepielowski of Poland and Gardiner of Ireland and De Wolf.

The five attackers moved clear, but no matter how hard they tried, Williams and Elliott could not shake off the 21-year-old De Wolf.

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Commercial Property / Baron Phillips

The surprise from the Pru

The sale by the Prudential Assurance Company of its freehold interest in Central Cross, the 229,000 sq ft office building in London's Tottenham Court Road, is a remarkable event in the capital's property market and a milestone in the block's 15 year chequered history.

Prudential's decision to put the building on the market for an asking price of £45m, is surprising: the giant insurance group, with £2,500m worth of property, is not known for selling its assets. This is the largest single sale ever made by the Prudential in its century-long involvement in property investment.

Central Cross is the sixth biggest building owned by the Prudential's extensive assets.

Mr Peter Green, the group's joint chief surveyor, had alleged fears that such a substantial sale indicates a disenchantment with long-term property investment.

He said: "Through this is undoubtedly a substantial sale, in the context of total property investments it represents more than a fine tuning of the portfolio."

But Mr Green has made it clear that while the Prudential has been a great holder of buildings and investments in the past, he wants to dispose of more assets.

Over the last 24 years the Prudential has disposed of about £45m worth of property with more than half of that sold in 1981. Considering the overall size of the portfolio, sales of this level are small beer and the figures are diluted even further when it is realised that about £10m accounts for a number of mansions which have been acquired by tenants.

Mr Green will not reveal the size of the present disposal programme, but he is clearly more than ready to cash in which can be used either for upgrading existing properties or for development.

Central Cross has had a troubled and colourful history. The site was acquired about 15 years ago by the Prudential from the Gort Estate and was originally developed in conjunction with EMI as the music and records group's new headquarters. But financial troubles at EMI and the subsequent takeover by Thorn, to form Thorn EMI, stopped plans to use the building.

Under the development agreement, EMI leased the entire building for 35 years from June 1979, with a provision to extend the lease to a maximum of 140 years.

Thorn EMI now pays £2.5m subject to five yearly rent reviews.

All the shops in Central Cross have been sub-let and tenants found for almost all the offices. Most of the office space has been leased by two principal tenants, Amoco and Amerasia, both oil companies. Thorn-EMI itself occupies only a tiny proportion of the offices.

The Prudential believes it will encounter little difficulty in finding a buyer for the block. An early approach was made some months ago by agents representing foreign interests, probably Middle Eastern, although Mr Green admits no serious discussions took place.

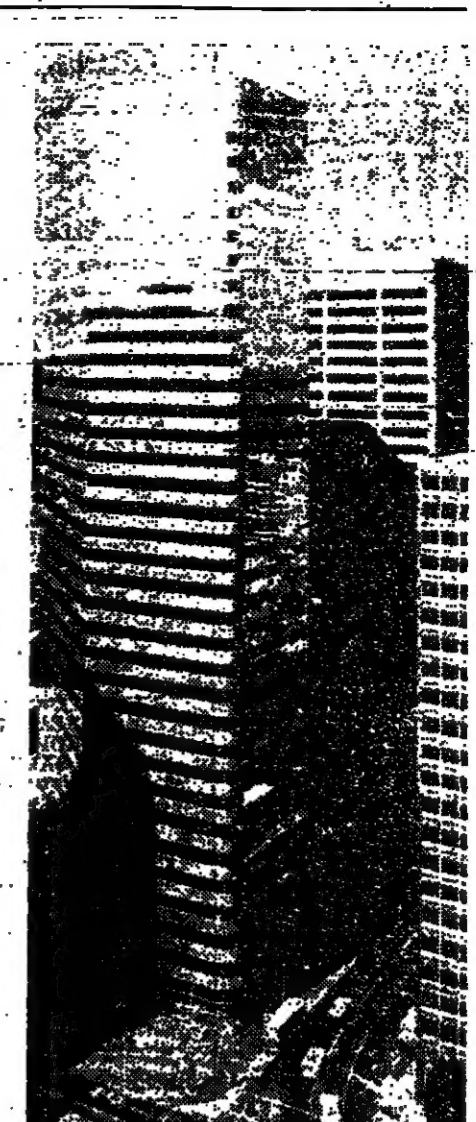
For some time investment managers for the main funds have been complaining that there are few major prime buildings on the market. A building the size of Central Cross is likely to be bought by a large pension fund or insurance group looking for major property investments.

The overall rent for the building that Thorn-EMI is paying is just under £10.90 a sq ft. At today's market rent the 180,000 sq ft offices would yield £2.7m alone, taking the total rent roll to more than £3m. As the rent review is about two years away any buyer of the building may consider it worthwhile to negotiate a buy-out of Thorn-EMI's interest and take full advantage of the income stream.

Apart from Central Cross the Prudential is holding talks about the future of the Adelphi Building at Charing Cross. The subject of a major refurbishment programme likely to cost around £31m, the Adelphi is thought to have a market value of about £60m. Mr Green confirmed that no agreement to sell has been reached although discussions are under way with the British subsidiary of Phillips Petroleum which wants to use the 300,000 sq ft block as a new headquarters building.

Though the Prudential has embarked on a major pruning exercise it continues to be busy with development. In central London alone where 45 per cent of its massive portfolio is concentrated, it is in the middle of a £100m development programme. Outside of the capital a further £100m is being channelled into a variety of schemes including about 1.1m sq ft of industrial space and 600,000 sq ft of office buildings.

While this substantial programme is under way, Mr Green pointed out that the Prudential's eyes are not closed to acquiring prime ready-made investments as the opportunities arise.



Towering purchase

More than £100m (about £56.5m) has been paid for the 600,000 sq ft Amoco Tower office building in Denver, Colorado. The buyers are a joint venture company formed by the Aetna Life and Casualty and Finsbury Colorado Properties, a subsidiary of BP Pension Trust, who have acquired the 36-storey block from a subsidiary of Reliance Development Inc. Debenham, Tewson & Chinnocks' New York office acted for BP.

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Cut price farms takeover plan by Labour

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Labour Party is considering a policy for the nationalization of all farmland with compensation paid on the basis of agricultural rather than market value.

A second draft chapter on food and agriculture, fisheries and forestry policy, to be considered for inclusion in Labour's Programme 1982, says that public ownership of land has always been an integral part of Labour philosophy.

"Land ownership in this country can bring with it inestimable and unjustifiable power and influence for a tiny minority of our citizens — a minority whose interests are frequently in direct conflict with the good of the community," the paper says.

"Only through the public ownership and control of land will we be able to eliminate that power and influence."

But the document states that the issue is "not simply a question of dogma", nationalization will also help to create a better, more economic farming structure.

"The present structure of farms is the result of generations of buying and selling — not to mention outright confiscation."

"No attempt has ever been made, over a large area, to create sound economic units suitable for varying conditions. Thousands of farms are made up of two or more quite separate parcels of land. Indeed, areas can be cited where well over half the holdings are in this category."

The party executive's food and agriculture sub-committee proposed the setting-up of a rural land authority, on the lines of a nationalized industry board, which would administer the state's farmland through area centres responsible for day-to-day estate management.

The sub-committee does not, however, make a firm recommendation on nationalization priority.

One formula hints at procrastination, saying: "The actual bringing into public ownership of agricultural land will clearly not be an easy process." Further consideration is suggested.

The alternative formula is more positive. It says: "We

believe that it is vital that the next Labour government moves quickly to provide a large publicly-owned sector of farmland."

"This would be achieved largely through the acquisition of the existing tenanted estates, but additional land would be acquired where its purchase created more rational boundaries for the national estate."

"Farming units would also be acquired where owners chose to relinquish the ownership of land instead of paying tax."

The paper says the question of compensation "is perhaps the most difficult we have to tackle in this area of policy."

It is said that the Labour Party did not embrace a policy of confiscation, "despite the fact that many of the present landlords derive their ownership from compensation by their predecessors."

Nevertheless, compensation could not be paid on the basis of current market values, but would be based on the lower, agricultural value.

The agricultural paper is one of a number of policy documents to be submitted to a special meeting of Labour's national executive on May 19. The executive will finalize the draft of Labour's programme 1982, expected to run to about 200 printed pages, and that document will be presented to the party conference at Blackpool in the autumn.

Call for animal ban, page 2

Boy trapped in fuel

Marc Barrie, aged six, of Irvine, Ayrshire, spent three hours trapped in a narrow fuel tank near the top of a 20-foot chimney on a building site on Saturday before police and firemen freed him.

Search operation

A kidney transplant operation was carried out on a boy, at the Royal Hospital in Liverpool, on Saturday, after a city-wide search for the patient. John Kendrick, aged 14, was shopping, when a suitable kidney became available.

33 killed in Italian antiques fair fire

Todi, Italy April 25 — A flash fire started by an explosion killed at least 33 people and injured scores of others attending an antiques exhibition at a 16th century country house 78 miles northwest of Rome.

At least 40 of the estimated 200 people at the exhibition jumped from the top floor of the building on to a lawn, some of them injuring themselves seriously.

Fire fighters said they were still counting the victims and believed that the death toll could go as high as 45. No foreigners were believed to be among the dead or injured.

Signor Paolo Pianigiani, a reporter from the local radio station across the road said: "There was a tremendous explosion which shook the entire area. For a minute we thought it was an earthquake. Then we saw smoke, fire and there was screaming."

Fire spread quickly and the heat was so intense... I saw a bronze statue literally melt," he said.

Police officials said the fire was touched off by an explosion, possibly caused by a gas leak, at a bar on the third floor.

The fire spread quickly because of the inflammability of the paintings, tapestries and other art objects in the building. The initial damage estimate from local officials was more than 1,000 million lire (£560,000). The injured were taken to hospitals in Perugia and at least six others were flown to two police helicopters to a centre in Rome for treatment.

Signor Giuseppe Ambricci, a civil defence official, said there were no fire engines in Todi, a town of 18,000 people when the fire broke out at 11am.

"The fire engines had to come from Perugia, 45 kilometers away, and more than 40 minutes elapsed before the rescue effort got under way," he said.

The blaze was brought under control nearly four hours later, with the aid of helicopters spraying water on to the building.

There was no immediate explanation why there were no fire engines on duty. Thirty-one bodies were pulled out of the debris and taken to a church near by for identification. Two people died later in hospital.



Blackbirds with a difference

Two albino blackbirds which fell out of their nest are being helped to survive by a girl aged eight.

Donna-Ania Wells (above), of King's Road, Gillingham, Norfolk, helps her father, Mr James Wells, to feed them with worms, bread and milk, a task that has to be repeated every 30 minutes between 5 am and midnight.

Mr Wells, a bird lover, fears that the three-week old birds' chances of survival are slight if released too soon. But he is also considering building an aviary in his back garden where they can continue their sheltered existence.

The Norfolk and Suffolk Wildlife Trust has been giving advice to Mr Wells, who is a catering manager for North Sea oil rigs, recovering from a back injury.

Union blacks task force war film

Continued from page 1

have a dispute about the privatization of film production by the COL. This work has been put out to private companies, and 27 of our members have been made redundant. We opposed that blacking has been extended to all government film material. We were approached by the Navy on the grounds that this was a national emergency, and would we find a way round the blacking. Our committee said yes, if they sit and negotiate. This they refused to do.

Work on about 40 government films has been disrupted by the technicians' action, including a feature on Britain's nuclear deterrent. The Ministry of Defence could not confirm or deny last night whether the blacking of Falklands Islands film was hampering the information war.

On a different front, unions have welcomed the ministry's postponement "for a short period" of immediate planned redundancies at Portsmouth and Chatham dockyard. Under closure plans, 4,300 jobs are due to go this year. But, while the blacking had enjoyed listening to her.

remains valid" the ministry said: "When the dust has settled, we will be considering whether there are any lessons to be learned from the Falklands crisis, to see whether any adjustments may be necessary within our overall plans."

Argentine Annie sends her thanks

The Argentine equivalent of Tokyo Rose, who has been broadcasting to the British task force, yesterday put over a personal message to a businessman in Britain who first picked up her propaganda talk last week.

She carried on with the usual propaganda broadcast, accusing Britain of attacking a friendly country and then addressed Mr Hurn, saying: "I hope you had enjoyed listening to her."

Israelis weep as flag is lowered in Sinai

From Christopher Walker, Sharm el Sheikh, April 25

Scores of male and female Israeli soldiers wept openly, and sometimes uncontrollably, today as the Star of David was lowered for the last time over Sinai, the desert peninsula conquered in 1967 and subsequently transformed by more than £8,000m of Israeli investment.

Soon after the emotional ceremony ended, a slow-moving convoy of coaches, army vehicles and lorries began to make the last journey northwards to meet the deadline for the final withdrawal which marks the completion of the first stage in the peace process begun at Camp David.

The Hebrew posters affixed to the front of almost every vehicle told their own story about the feelings of most Israelis over the loss of the Sinai. "We did not retreat," said one. Another bore the dignified message: "With pain, pride and hope we say goodbye to Sinai." More simplistic was a third which stated: "Sharm, we love you."

As the departing troops drove through this strategic Red Sea port, the number of Egyptians outnumbered Israelis for the first time in almost 15 years. The few foreign journalists permitted into the area were constantly greeted from the sides of the road by the new arrivals with enthusiastic waves and cries of "Welcome to Egypt!"

Already the Egyptians have taken over the Marina hotel at nearby Namsa Bay, as well as many of the 500 white stucco flats which jut out on a spectacular promontory overlooking the sea.

For the most part, the final withdrawal was handled with the maximum of emotion and the minimum of ill feeling.

The Israeli soldiers and officers I spoke to mirrored views expressed by many civilians in the country, that

the withdrawal, and indeed the whole peace treaty with Egypt, were a gamble which had to be risked. But none could disguise their deep grief.

The mood was perhaps best summed up during a dinner given to the remaining troops last night by Brigadier-General Aharon, commander of the region. "My son is 15 and in three years he will join the army," he told his men. "Then he is sure to ask whether people of my generation did everything that we could to see we do not have another war. I want to be able to look him straight in the face with a clear eye and say: 'Yes'."

□ Tel Aviv: The Israeli convoy took along some 200 civilian last-ditch opponents of the peace treaty and of the withdrawal but it was not clear they had them all (Moshe Brilliant writes).

The Stop the Withdrawal Movement claimed some of its activists were still hiding in the ghost settlements. Leaders of the militants planned to continue their struggle for the recovery of Sinai as a political party or in some other form to be determined later. Their plan was ridiculed by Dr Yehuda Ben Meir, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, who is a leader of the National Religious Party and a former supporter of the militants. He said the recovery of Sinai would require another war against Egypt and 99 per cent of the people were against this.

Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, said the evacuation was the hardest, most painful, most complex and most delicate mission ever imposed on an Israeli minister.

Egypt no longer in black book, page 4

Leading article, page 9

Sadat dream fulfilled

Cairo, April 25 — President Mubarak put a wreath on the tomb of his predecessor, Anwar Sadat today to mark the fulfilment of the assassinated leader's dream of the return of Egyptian sovereignty to Sinai.

The ceremony at the tomb, a few yards from the spot where President Sadat was assassinated on October 6 last year, was the first of a series of low-key observances to mark Israel's withdrawal from the peninsula after 15 years of occupation.

Even as the ceremonies were taking place, it was still unknown how the last dispute over the Egyptian-Israeli border would be resolved. American, Egyptian and Israeli negotiators were busy to reach a settlement over Tabá, a 1,000-square yard area on the Gulf of Aqaba coast south-west of the Israeli port of Eilat.

A meeting in Cairo late last night ended without progress, officials said — AP.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
Princess Margaret attends the Royal Ascot at Ascot, 9.35

New Exhibitions
The Merseyside Guild of Porters: an exhibition of hand built and wheel thrown pottery and ceramics. Atkinson Art Gallery, Lord Street, Southport; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Thurs and Sat 10 to 5; (until May 22).
Sculptures by Anthony Caro, Huddersfield Art Gallery, Mon to

Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4; (until May 22).

Images for Disarmament: photo montages by Peter Kennard, Phoenix Arts, Newark Street, Leicester; Mon to Sat 10 to 6; (until May 16).

RSA Annual Exhibition, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until July 25).

Paintings by André Bicat and carved and pierced porcelain by Maggie Barnes and others. Bohun Gallery, 13 Station Road, Bexley-on-Sea, Kent; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Wed and Sun; (until May 20).

Screenprints by three artists, Gallery 2, Bolton Museum and Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton, Lancashire; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5, closed Wed and Sun; (until May 16).

Landscapes: photographs by Oswald Jones, Canterbury Cathedral; daily until 7; (until May 15).

Workshops: drawings by Falcon Hildred of industrial revolution towns; Industrial Museum, Moor-side Road, Bradford; Tues to Sat 10 to 5; (until June).

Waterways: Waterways Exhibitions, Town Hall, Newbury, Berkshire; 5 to 5.30, 11 to 4 Mon to Fri (until May 3).

India Observed, Library Gallery, 74, Victoria Road, Albert Museum; Mon-Sat 10 to 5.45, Sun 2.30 to 5.45, closed Fri from today until July 4.

Exhibitions in progress
Art of the book in India, British Library, Great Russell Street, WC1; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 1 (until May 8).

Paintings based primarily on Nash, Gallery 10, Grosvenor Street, W1; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 1, closed Sundays (until May 4).

The Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Company since 1860, Gloucester Folk Museum, 99-103 Westgate Street; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until May 29).

Watercolours by Stephen Oiler of court houses built between 1824 and 1966; a retrospective photographic exhibition of work by Neil Newton and exhibition of contemporary prints by leading Canadian artists; all at Guildford House Gallery, 155 High Street, Guildford, Surrey; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5; (until May 1).

Out of the shadows, contemporary Irish photography; Ulster Museum, Botanic Gardens, Belfast; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Fridays. Until May 31.

Music
Humphrey Lyttelton in concert, Castle Park Leisure Centre, Bangor, Northern Ireland.

Walks
London's ghosts, alleys and oddities, meet Embankment Underground, 7.30.

With Shakespeare and Dickens in Southwark, meet Borough Underground, 10.30.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Finance Bill, committee, second day. Lords (2.30): Shops Bill, third reading. Copyright Act, 1956 (Amendment) Bill, third reading. Debate on EEC competition practice and debate on A320 airbus.

Discount stamps
Stamps at a discount go on sale this week when the Post Office begins to distribute coupons giving a 15p reduction on a book of 10 first or second class stamps. The "15p off" offer, a reduction of about 10 per cent on a book of stamps, ends on May 31.

The pound

	Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	1.75	1.67	
Austria Sch	31.35	29.35	
Belgium Fr	91.35	86.25	
Canada \$	2.24	2.15	
Denmark Kr	14.99	14.24	
Ireland P	1.26	1.21	
France Fr	11.53	10.93	
Germany DM	4.43	4.18	
Greece Dr	115.50	108.50	
Hong Kong \$	10.70	10.10	
Italy Lit	2395.00	2295.00	
Japan Yen	456.00	430.00	
Netherlands Gld	192.00	182.00	
Norway Kr	11.25	10.65	
Portugal Esc	133.00	126.00	
South Africa Rd	2.25	2.08	
Spain Ptas	166.00	156.00	
Sweden Kr	10.96	10.36	
Switzerland Fr	3.66	3.44	
USA \$	1.83	1.76	
Yugoslavia Dnr	96.00	92.00	

Londons: The FT Index closed down 1.9 at 567.1 on Friday.
New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 862.16, up 9.04.

Nature notes

More summer visitors are arriving from Africa. Garden warblers sing quietly in woods and parks, and warblers announce themselves with a bubbling song in ditchside hedges. House martins wheel round the eaves again. The first autumn migrants to start nesting are the chiffchaffs. They are easy to notice, since they call constantly as they approach the branches where they are building, unlike the willow warblers, which have an almost identical alarm call, but only use it when feeding their young. Starlings are building their big ragged nests in holes and drain pipes; many of their winter companions the English fields are now back in Russia and Poland, beginning to do the same. A few wintering fieldfares still linger on the East coast.

Dusty red blossoms surround the ash buds, but the leaves have yet to open. Oak buds are just breaking; the pale green leaves of the limes are slightly more advanced. Field speedwell spread in the grass; bluebells begin to cover the woodland floors with brilliant sheets of colour; the cuckoo-pint unfolds its hooded purple spike. The flowers of the colts' foot have already turned into fat, white seed-clocks.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000 winner: 16AK 352078 (winner comes from 497823 (London borough of Hounslow). £25,000 winner: 9EP 630652 (Lincolnshire).

May Day travel

Sunday services will operate on the London Underground and on most bus routes on the May Day bank holiday Monday, May 3. Services on the Saturday and Sunday of the holiday weekend will generally be normal. Sunday fares will apply on the holiday Monday.

The Papers

The DAILY MAIL says today that after all the posturing and propaganda there must be a sense of relief at the news that British forces have landed in South Georgia, to get on with the first part of the job they were sent down to the South Atlantic to do. The paper also takes the view that a quick and successful takeover of South Georgia could be a matter of fact reinforcement of the present policy of isolationism backed by strength by showing the Argentinians that the mean business. They would be wise, it says, to return to the negotiating table before worse befalls them.

The Daily Mirror writes that the Argentinians may claim excitedly that the reoccupation of South Georgia was "But it should not be too serious to be fought over side issues," it says. "If a major war does break out then it will be over the future of the people of the Falklands, not the peninsula of South Georgia."

The Observer under the head Oh, what an unnecessary war, says that the gap between Britain and Argentina over the Falklands is not wide enough to justify going to war, with the certain loss of lives on both sides. It Britain did go to war, it would end on a path of increasing danger and international isolation which could only make an eventual settlement more difficult.

The Sunday Times says Britain must be ready to talk about Argentinian sovereignty, both as an inducement to the Argentinians to get off the island and as a means of ending the impossible situation of assuming responsibility for defending this far off colony while lacking the proper means to do so. British responsibility was to seek to make reasonable arrangements to safeguard the islanders' interests. It did not extend to guaranteeing self-determination.

Anniversaries today
Birth: John James Audubon, naturalist and artist, Cayes, Haiti, 1785; Eugene Ionesco, French, 1896; Friedrich Florschütz, Teutendorf, Germany, 1812; Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, Norwegian writer and political leader, died in Paris, 1910.

National Day

Tanzania's national day today celebrates the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar in 1964. Independence had been granted to Tanganyika by Britain in 1961 and to Zanzibar in 1963. Since the union Tanganyika has been ruled by President Nyerere under an African socialist banner.

Sporting fixtures

Football: First division, Notts County v Stoke. Three other league matches (7.30).
Cricket: Cambridge University v Nottinghamshire, at Fenner's, 11.30; Oxford University v Northamptonshire, at the Parks (11.30).
Racing: Flat meetings at Brighton (1.45) and Warwick (2.30); NH at Southwell (2.30).
Basketball: England v Columbia, at Birchwood (7.30).

Weather

Pressure will remain high over the British Isles, 6 am to midnight

London, cent S, cent N England, E winds; dry, any fog patches soon clearing, sunny periods, but rather cloudy at times, wind mainly N, light; max temp 18 to 18C (61 to 64F).

SE England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Mainly dry, sunny intervals developing but rather cloudy near coasts, perhaps with drizzle, wind NE or N, moderate, locally fresh, max temp 19 to 19C (65 to 66F), cooler near coasts.
E, NE England, Borders: Dry, any fog patches soon clearing, sunny intervals developing, but rather cloudy at times near coasts, wind mainly N, light or moderate; max temp 14 to 16C (57 to 61F), cooler near coasts.

W, Midlands, SW England, S Wales: Dry, sunny periods, wind NE or N, light or moderate; max temp 18 to 18C (61 to 64F), cooler near coasts.
W, Wales, NW England, Lake District: Mainly dry, sunny periods after clearance of early morning fog patches; wind mainly NW, light or moderate; max temp 15 to 15C (59 to 63F).

Edinburgh and Dundee, S Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Dry, sunny intervals, but clearance of fog patches, wind W or NW, light or moderate; max temp 14 to 16C (57 to 61F).

NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, but clearance of fog patches, wind W or NW, light or moderate; max temp 13 to 14C (55 to 57F).

Outlook: For tomorrow and Wednesday: Mostly dry and warm, with sunny periods, but cooler with some rain in the N later.
SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Mainly dry, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.
English Channel (E) — Wind NE, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.
Wind NE, St George's Channel — Wind NE, light or moderate; sea slight, Irish Sea — Wind NW, moderate, locally fresh; sea slight or moderate.

Sun rises: 6.43 am. Sun sets: 8.15 pm.
Moon rises: 7.30 am. Moon sets: 11.40 pm.

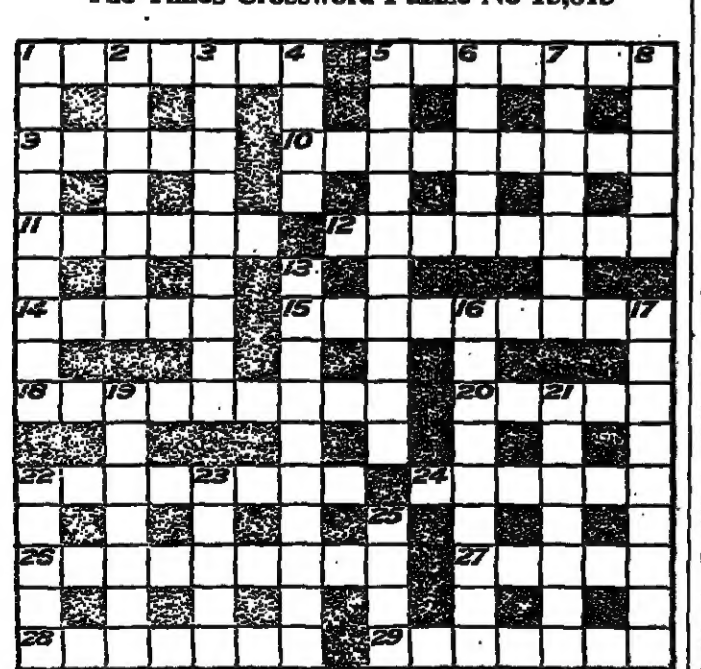
Lighting-up time

London 5.45 pm to 5.11 am.
Bristol 5.11 pm to 5.21 pm.
Edinburgh 5.11 pm to 5.21 pm.
Manchester 5.50 pm to 5.13 am.
Preston 5.35 pm to 5.35 am.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cent; f, fahrenheit.
Belfast: 12.5 C, 54.5 F.
Birmingham: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Blackpool: 9.4 C, 48.9 F.
Bristol: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Cardiff: 14.3 C, 57.7 F.
Edinburgh: 11.4 C, 52.5 F.
Glasgow: 13.5 C, 56.3 F.
Hull: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Leeds: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Liverpool: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Manchester: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Newcastle: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Nottingham: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Preston: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Sheffield: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Southampton: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Stoke: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Tottenham: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.
Wolverhampton: 10.1 C, 50.2 F.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,815



ACROSS

- Do canine imitation and get the bird? (7).
- Pedlar or deck hand? (7).
- Note car number (5).
- Get a man to replace a powerful one (7).
- By which Oberon unhappily met Titania? (9).
- Falling to keep record about crowd-finding (6).
- Countryside feature in SE England — or Ulster? (8).
- Gave a hand to someone (5).
- Middle with one rent-free building (9).
- In the eighth one, for example (9).
- 504 to retreat — just a bit off course (5).
- Unkind interpretation of a Beethoven sonata? (8).
- Excuse some beggar's request (6).
- In cancellation of written work doctor finds an opening (9).
- Singer sees start of party — a dry one (5).
- Globe for instance showing all the world? (7).
- Pat's still content? (7).

- Outstanding feature for my French politician (10).
- Stop in Panama city (5).
- Get a man to replace a powerful one (7).
- Celebrated college put up many (5).
- Dead gets underworld approval? (10).
- Cleveland racecourse favourite's ceremonial welcome (13, 6).
- Quaint connexion applied for by imkeeper (9).
- Blue mat possibly may be changed? (7).
- Star of French film "The Sentinel" (7).
- Quiet mill-stream by the fold (5).
- Precise, like Dora, initially (5).
- Lament for mini-piano (4).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 15,814 will appear next Saturday

DOWN

- Where service-men were behind the lines? (9).
- Plant used in stage transformation (7).
- A number go to church in Devon (9).
- Sort of stone fruit? (4).